△ The Best Man for the Job
△ Grow up Brightly

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Gift Plants to Leader Kim Jong IL From Abroad

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Looking Baek Upon Unforgettable Days

Numerous notable events are recorded in the long course followed by the Workers' Party of Korea. Out of them June 19, of 37 years ago when leader Kim Jong Ii started to work at the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea goes down in the history of the WPK and the Korean revolution as an eventful day worthy of special mention. Our people are full of deep emotions, as they have been living and working under his guidance for several decades up to the present since then.

Whenever looking back upon the days gone by, their first thoughts are carried back to the 1960s when the dawn of the revolution in literature and the arts began to shine brightly.

With a plan to bring about innovations from the field of literature and the arts which play an important role in the Party's ideological work, he kindled a flame of revolution in cinema art.

Many impressive episodes occurred in those days.

Sometimes he sat face to face with a writer for hours to bring his script to completion, and sometimes went to the location to make film scenes more life-like and truthful.

In this laborious work, a revolutionary turn was brought about in cinema art first and then in literature and the arts as a whole, including opera and drama.

The 1970s and the 1980s were a heyday in the history of the Korean revolution. On February 19, 1974, Kim Jong II announced the programme for modelling the whole society on the Juche idea and led the work of transforming nature, society and man as required by the Juche idea.

In this process, the Workers' Party of Korea and the Korean People's Army renewed their appearances completely as the Party and the army of the leader and radical changes took place in all sectors of the revolution and construction.

The same may be said of economic construction.

In the 1970s when a campaign for grand socialist construction was conducted to achieve the ten long-term economic objectives, he saw to it that a dynamic speed campaign was launched in all fields and units of economic construction by putting forward the idea of speed campaign. As a result, a large long-distance conveyor belt was built at the Unryul Mine to transport overburden and a large long-distance pipe line was laid between Musan and Chongjin to transport headings and numerous structures conducive to strengthening the independent national economy were erected.

That is not all.

Under his guidance, grand monuments were erected on Mansu Hill in Pyongyang and at Samjiyon and Wanginesan both on the northern tip of Korea. Revolutionary sites and revolutionary battle sites were built up in all places which were associated with the revolutionary activities of President Kim Ii Sung, thus making it possible to firmly succeed the lifeline of the Korean revolution.

Whenever they think of the changes of the country effected under his guidance our people cannot forget the period of prosperity of Pyongyang. The construction of the Tower of the Juche Idea, the Arch of Triumph, the Grand People's Study House, the Pyongyang Maternity Hospital, Changgwang and Munsu streets, and more than 260 other construction projects including Kwangbok Street which was built in preparation for the 13th World Festival of Youth and Students—all this is enough to show the width and depth of the aforesaid period of prosperity.

The structures erected on this land at the "Speed of the 80s" including the West Sea and many other barrages and the construction of the dressing plant No. 3 at Komdok Mine are all associated with the devoted efforts he has made.

The 1990s was the period when the path ahead of the Korean people was beset with trying ordeals and tremendous difficulties which were unprecedented in history. However, various functions to celebrate the 80th birthday of President Kim Ii Sung were held grandly on an international scale, the Pyongyang Declaration, the banner of the movement for the revival of socialism, was adopted, and voices supporting this declaration grew louder day by day. These could hardly be thinkable were it not for the wise guidance of leader Kim Jong IL.

After President Kim Ii Sung passed away, he, breaking through grave difficulties single-handed, accomplished the work of reverently laying the President in state at the Kumsusan Memorial Palace to hold him in lasting reverence and defended the socialist homeland. These are his most brilliant exploits which will go down for ever in the history of our fatherland.

Looking back upon the long path traversed together with leader Kim Jong IL, the Korean people feel deeply that it is their great honour and fortune that they have acclaimed him at the head of the revolution.

Marking the 37th anniversary of his start of work at the WPK Central Committee, they are firmly determined to follow the long way of revolution under his leadership faithfully in the future, too.

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It is nearly 40 years since Kim Jong Ii began to work at the Workers' Party of Korea Central Committee.

O Ki Sok is the kind of man

tens of thousands of hectares in the Kumjin River basin from drought and flood damage. Hundreds of hectares of land will be reclaimed and the people who live on the riverbanks will at last be safe and secure. Additional power stations will be built down river to provide electricity for the county seat area's heating.

O Ki Sok started his present job of the county Party chief secretary 15 years ago. He has worked extraordinarily hard ever since on bigger and bigger projects. His earlier projects included the Kumjingang Bridge span-about the disastrous effects of flooding and drought. They talked of a dam to control the river and thus protect the people, secure the farming and generate power. But as it would have needed vast amounts of cement, labour and rolling stock it was put off for years.

O Ki Sok was the man who got the project going. He said to the county officials, "We can't do this in a conventional way. The project needs radical rethinking. We haven't got the money to buy cement. We've got rock, sand and clay and our biggest resource, the who typifies what a member of the Workers' Party of Korea should be like. He is an example to all those who have flourished under Kim Jong IL's care and have benefited from his instructions. O is the moving spirit behind the great Kumjingang dam and power station.

Spirit and Practice

If you go to the east coast to Jongphyong County, South Hamgyong Province, you can see the great construction project. The dam is already the size of a small mountain. The dam will not only provide electricity, it will freening hundreds of metres, the l000m breakwater across the rough sea, 9 reservoirs holding huge amounts of water and thousands of modern flats in the town. The dam of the Kumjingang power station is, however, far greater than these both in size and importance.

For centuries people have wanted to tame the 80km Kumjin River which empties into the Korean East Sea. In spring it dries up and fails to irrigate the crops. In summer it floods and inundates houses and lands, sweeping away people and animals. Both Kim IL Sung and Kim Jong IL were concerned people. If we can fire them with enthusiasm we can achieve anything."

The job was started but it was incredibly difficult even from the beginning. Workers were climbing Sm down into holes in the river bed and climbing out again with bags of dripping earth. The holes collapsed and they dug again. When the hole was in danger of collapsing again, they supported the walls with their own bodies. Slowly, slowly they made the basis for the dam. You cannot imagine how hard it

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was unless you went through it yourself. This, however, wasn't the only thing that hampered them. There was very little food and people began to despair that the job would ever be finished. Some even thought that the only reason for the project was to glorify the chief secretary.

O Ki Sok, however, had more than one good reason for completing the job. He wanted to relieve the county's economic problems but he also wanted to make the people realise that they could, by their own efforts, overcome all kinds of difficulties. As well as this he wanted to show the outside world the quality and fighting spirit of the Korean people. He told the people that winning the battle of the dam was a victory over their enemies.

A plenary session of the Party committee decided to mobilise the entire county and to devote all the food they could to the dam workers. The next day the road to the dam was jammed with workers with everything from baskets to tractors, stretchers, cooking pots and oxcarts. On the way to the dam Ki Sok recognised a war veteran hobbling along. He jumped out of the car and called out "Why are you going there?" "I'm going of my own accord because I agree that building the dam will be a victory over our enemies," the old soldier replied. O pushed the disabled man into his seat in the car and joined the crowds walking to the dam.

The crowds that day would have had almost nothing for breakfast yet they all went willingly. Even the old were there. Ki Sok was moved. He thought, "Kim Jong II is the bearer of the red flag of socialism, who stands firm against the imperialist allied forces that want to crush and isolate our country. He deprives himself of sleep and food in order to be there when he's needed to give us guidance." He remembered that Kim Jong IL had said "Nowadays officials often say that they won't worry me. If they really want to make me happy they ought to do good things for the people. When the people are pleased, I am pleased. When they are happy, then I am too. You officials should realise this and join me in working for the people." "Working for the people!" O Si Sok knew he would have no regrets if he died living up to Kim Jong IL's noble ideal.

When Ki Sok got to the construction site, he found a party in full swing. The workers handed him the mike from the propaganda car and urged him to sing a song. Ki Sok knew he didn't have a good voice but he took the microphone and sang:

Where is our father the great general now

When the bright Big Dipper in the sky we see?

Where are the supreme headquarters with their bright windows

Where he is sure to be?

While singing the song, Ki Sok pictured Kim Jong IL in his mind and was filled with determination to sacrifice himself if necessary to complete the dam. With his like-minded workers, he carved a huge sign on Toryongbong Hill facing the building site. It says, "No one can defeat those who defy death." It is the manifestation of the driving spirit of the Workers' Party and O Ki Sok.

Despite his huge work load directing all the other affairs in the county, O managed to get to the dam almost every day if only for an hour. He drove directly to the construction site from provincial or national meetings. He held torches to help the

builders at work, he once checked the water bursting into a coffer dam with his body, he went in a tractor going down to the dam basin to pump out water. Wherever there were difficulties, there was Ki Sok ready to help. Such was his devotion to the project, he once requested that if he died, he should be buried beneath the dam.

The Dam Rises for His Comradeship

When Kim Jong Ii visited the hospital, Ki Sok had put off a dam, he was so proud and meeting with senior Party work-pleased with the work that he ers and had travelled a long disasked to have his

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photograph taken on site. The picture shows the Leader together with senior Party officials including Ki Sok and Pak Myong Son, the head of the construction team. It's a picture of comradeship.

O inspires devotion. O met Pak, who is the deputy section chief of the county Party committee, fifteen years ago and the two became friends, Their friendship was strengthened when they were working on the breakwater 6 years ago and sharing their gruel. During the construction of the dam, the pair grew even closer as they shared misfortunes and grieved over the deaths of their friends. Pak could have' been promoted. His business ability, his achievements and his age all recommended him for a higher position. The trouble was that if he was promoted he could no longer work on the dam. Ki Sok went to the dam to see Myong Son. "You've got a choice," he said, "promotion or completing the dam."

Pak reflected on his work with O. When he was ill in hospital, Ki Sok had put off a meeting with senior Party workers and had traveled a long distance to see him. Once when there was a flood, and Pak was going up and down the river bank for days and nights on end calling out the names of those who had drowned while saving the electricity generators, 0 was with him carrying a torch to light his way. Pak was so distressed that he didn't eat for days till 0 sat him down and made him eat a full bowl of rice. When 0 asked him the ques- .tion, Pak could hardly keep back his tears. "How can you ask such a question? Of course I'll stay with you. No one would expect this to be achieved without sacrifice. If we don't sacrifice ourselves, the builders will lose their courage and determination."

Another man in the photo with Kim Jong Ii at the dam is Ri Min Je, vice-chairman of the county co-operative farm management committee. A few years ago, Ri was working at the Koyang Co-operative Farm as head of the farming inspection team. One day. he got a phone call from o asking him to decide on a place to build a dam of sand and stones. Twice Hi said "No." Ki Sok was annoyed. He knew that Ri was an experienced irrigation engineer and saw no reason why he couldn't help. He remembered someone saying that Ri wasn't up to it any more. He was getting too old.

O went to see Ri and found that he was in fact trying.to back away from tiring and difficult projects due to his age. "I don't know enough about it," he complained. O replied, "You just go ahead and do it. You've got 15 days to design a dam. You can't retire yet. You'll be letting down your colleagues and yourself if you do." O Ki Sok then went off with his officials over the mountains and along the river until they found a suitable site. He deluged Ri with technical literature. Ri read widely on the subject and went to Hamhung University of Hydraulics and Power Engineering where he had intense discussions

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with the experts. Finally he produced a design.

When the time came to discuss Ri's design, O sat and listened while many of the experts dismissed it as dangerous, insisting that only traditional methods were safe. When they had finished speaking, O said, "Well, I approve of it. It's our way of doing it and it fits the geology of the riverbed. I would like to suggest some improvements though." And he put forward a scheme to reinforce the structure. His colleagues were astonished at his technical expertise. They discovered later that O spent most of his spare time studying science and technology, partly because he needed to understand the projects he was engaged in and partly. because the Party laid such stress on science and technology. The design was eventually passed by the committee and helped complete the project.

There are lots of stories about O and the dam. He trained young people to be useful members of society. He took responsibility for the misconduct of one of the offi cials and then gave him such a lesson that the official was later able to appear in the photo with Kim Jong Ii.

His Selflessness

O punished his own driver severely for abstracting some thing destined for the dam and delivering it to O's house. O was furious with him and the county official who had organised it. "Don't you know that the workers are starving? If they have only gruel to eat then we will have only gruel to eat." O then con-vened a Party meeting to tell people about the incident and to insist that Party workers must always be completely open and honest.

He is widely respected for his honesty and high principles. His house has only two rooms and is simply furnished. He gives comfortable furniture to young couples in the county when they get married but spends very little on his own house. His youngest daughter wanted a little of some material that was needed at the dam site. She wanted it for her six-month practical course at college. O refused. "Officials must show no favour to their family and friends. They must be seen to be absolutely honest or they will lose their authority." And despite the fact that the girl was not very strong, he also refused to let her use his official car to take her the 24km to Hamhung from Jongphyong. She had to walk. The neighbours were sorry for her but her father was adamant. No member of his family has ever set foot in the car. His daughter was not allowed to wear her fashionable padded clothes when she was at college. "The uniform the state gives you is good enough," he thundered. He never accepts a meal in a village and always wears ordinary working clothes. He has no notion of self interest.

On 3Oth November last year Kim Jong IL came to see the dam project. *"If everyone works like* O *Ki Sok you'll be able to achieve wonders. He's a hero." As I said goodbye to Ki Sok he said, "If you devote yourself to the leader and the people, you can achieve anything you want. Anyway it's an honour to be a Party worker, isn't it?"*

Ryu Kyong Hui

Quotes from Kim Jong Ii

"Revolutionary comradeship is the crest and high-water mark of love for a man."

"A man with no love for his comrades cannot gain their love."

Kanggye Silk Spinning Mill

Situated in the Jagang provincial seat, this mill was inaugurated in January last year.

The provincial people built this mill on their own, true to the intention of leader Kim Jong II who is devoting all his energies to bringing to realization the wish of President Kim II Sung in his lifetime for the betterment of clothing of our people.

With the construction of the mill another asset was created for the improvement of the livelihood of the people in the provinMade up of a four-storeyed main building for production and several auxiliary buildings, the mill has production workshops, including the spinning and preparatory workshops and auxiliary sections.

The manager of the mill said:

"All the employees of our mill are now exerting themselves to carry out their tasks with a sense of responsibility, full of pride in their working at such modem place."

Visible everywhere in the compound are slogans, "Let us go with smile, although the road ahead is rugged!" and "Let us produce more silk thread!"

The mill is perfectly furnished with production processes, from the preparatory process to the processing and finishing ones.

The on-the-spot guidance provided by leader Kim Jong IL in August last year greatly inspired the workers at the mill.

Making a round of workshops, he saw the production activities of the workers and gave instructions in detail as to the task for increasing the output of silk thread and the ways and means for its accomplishment.

His on-the-spot guidance aroused the workers to effect a fresh upsurge in production.

Although everything was difficult and in short supply, they put a lot of effort into increasing the production of silk thread and raising its quality.

Leading officials at the mill inspired the workers, saying:

"How to boost production rests with the spirit of the people," and "Nothing is impossible for a man who is properly armed with the spirit of self-reliance."

The working staff, with a love for the factory, conducted the checking and repair of equipment scrupulously and operated all machines at full capacity as required by the technical and the standard regulations of operation.

They set up a proper system for the production and supply of heat in conformity with the actual situation of the mill to ensure suitable temperature and humidity of their working places.

The chief engineer and technicians brought to perfection process of cutting fine hair off the surface of thread, the most knotty problem in production, with their own efforts and technique, thus making a great contribution to putting production onto a steady footing.

A Visit to the Sinuiju Cosmetics Factory

Recently I visited the Sinuiju Cosmetics Factory which had just started operation in south Sinuiju. As a new strong provider of cosmetics whose demand is daily increasing, the factory, with a total floor space of 24,000 square metres, was inaugurated only after a little over a year of construction by the builders from North Phyongan Province.

The direct roads in the compound, greenery and cosy one-story production buildings feasted my eyes.

Factory manager Myong Song Bong, 42, told me;

"Leader Kim Jong IL inspected our factory twice and gave instructions on dozens of occasions to indicate the way for the factory to follow in its operation. He gave solutions to all problems in the factory building and provided every condition necessary for the project."

Hearing his words I first went to see the soap workshop. The facilities were impeccably arranged: the large cylindrical tanks, caustic soda storage, water tank, dehydration tank and others were quite in orderly array.

"These soap tanks have a 20-ton capacity each. They are the first in the soap-making process," explained the workshop manager, guiding me around the production process.

Soap grains which have been dried to some degree are mixed properly with the pink fragrant pigment before going on the inclined belt to be processed at the pressing and cutting machines. Then the pieces of soap are pasted with the *"Pomhyanggi"* (Spring Aroma) brand and packed by an automatic machine into cases.

Then I saw the tooth paste workshop. The first tbing to meet my eyes was the big-lettered newsboard. It read: "The injection team has overfulfilled today's quota with the determination to be a pioneer in opening the breakthrough in the new century." This was a veritable proof of the working enthusiasm of the workers at the shop.

The young assistant manager of the workshop who seemed early in his thirties, said, "Our shop is equipped fully with the paste tube injector, six-colour printer, drier, stopper-maker and other automatic machines. Our products are popular with the public."

I had a look at a paste tube which had just come off the press. The upper part was patterned with a couple of cranes underlined by the word "Paekhak" (White Crane). On the back was written the more or less detailed indication of the paste. According to the explanation, the paste is quite helpful to cleaning the teeth and the oral cavity suppressing the living or infiltration of the germs in the mouth and preventing the inflammation of the gum and other dental diseases. As the saying goes, "The face is the index of the heart," the cleanly packed tube and the fragrant paste caused my strong urge to use it. Moreover, the white-gowned girls working to the rhythm of machines attracted me very much. I fancied they were just like the "white cranes

The next leg of my visit to the factory was the cosmetics workshop.

I first looked into the cosmetics display room. Over 90 kinds of cosmetics like the *Moran* and *Jangrni* sets, *Insarn* soap, *Porn* soap, Koryo *Insarn* tooth paste, *Paekho* tooth paste, *Pullo* tooth paste; many diplomas and medals were on show, implying that the factory had a long history.

In the workshop I looked round the process of cleaning, disinfection, injection, stopping, and packing which are all in an automatic line. The packing of cream, for example, was all done with the use of machine, without any manual help from the operator except button-pressing panel.

The factory's chief engineer Kim Chang Do, who was known as "doctor" of cosmetics, told me, "It is a worldwide trend to make use of the natural spring water in cosmetics production. Our cosmetics are made with the scientifically mixed,nutritious elements like the Kaesong Koryo Insam and rare wild herbs in Korea. They make your skin soft, enhance the circulation of blood in the skin, promote physiological functions and prevent the degeneration of the skin."

The factory's *"Pornhyanggi"* cosmetics are known to smarten up the young and bring the old a youthful look. They will make blooming colours on the people's countenance—this is what I was convinced of, leaving the factory.

Sim Chol Yong

An outer view of the factory.

Cream production.

Injection of tooth paste tubes.

Conferring on the quality of the tooth paste.

The production process is on modern lines.

A panel discussion on products.

A display of some products.

From Kim Il Sung's Reminiscences *"With the Century"*

Trust and Treachery

When our revolution was faced with severe trials like the Arduous March, stragglers, deserters and capitulators began to appear among those whose confidence in the victory of the revolution was shaky.

Vacillators and deserters also appeared in our ranks when a neutrality pact was signed between the Soviet Union and Japan. Ji Kap Ryong, who appears in *The Conviction of Victory,* was one of those deserters.

The neutrality pact between the Soviet Union and Japan was signed in April 1941, in the days when I was operating with a small unit. On his way back from a visit to Germany, Japanese Foreign Minister Matsuoka dropped in at Moscow and concluded the neutrality pact. Its repercussions reached our People's Revolutionary Army.

The gist of the treaty was that the signatories should maintain peaceful relations, respect the integrity and inviolability of each other's territory, and observe neutrality when either party engaged in hostilities with a third country.

As you can see, the treaty had no article that dealt with the Korean question. So there was no reason for the treaty to upset Koreans in particular. Nevertheless, a considerable number of Korean revolutionaries were disappointed on hearing the news of the treaty. They had been considering the Soviet Union as their most reliable ally and, as the ally had joined hands with Japan, their mortal enemy, they thought that everything was hopeless. They became disheartened, as they had interpreted the clauses on respect for each other's territory and maintenance of peaceful relations in the treaty as a declaration that the Soviet Union and Japan would not engage in a war against each other.

This judgment produced, in the long run, pessimism, defeatism and capitulationism in corners of our ranks.

After signing the treaty with the Soviets, the Japanese gave wide publicity to it. They carried in their newspapers a photo of Stalin meeting Matsuoka. This photo had a strong psychological impact on waverers among us.

However, could the basic revolutionary stand of Korean communists change because their neighbouring countries had signed a treaty? Did we rely on a big country when we were starting the revolution? No. We started it with belief in ourselves. After starting the armed struggle, we received no aid, not even a single hand-grenade, from our neighbours. We waged the armed struggle, carried on Party building and conducted the united front movement by solving everything by our own efforts and by believing in the strength of our own people.

In the course of this we entered into a joint struggle with the Chinese people and formed an allied front with the Soviet people. An ally would be welcome, but it wouldn't matter if there were no ally. That was our consistent stand. That was why, from the first day of the armed struggle, we educated the army and the people in the spirit of independence and equipped them with the revolutionary spirit of self-reliance. We stressed time and again that independence meant life, that dependence on foreign forces meant the lot of slaves, that self-reliance would lead us to prosperity, and that we could neither liberate the country nor build a new country without relying on ourselves.

But some commanding officers paid little attention to education in the spirit of liberating the country by our own efforts and the spirit of self-reliance; they only stressed the contradictions between the Soviet Union and Japan, and the greatness of the Soviet Union. This permitted the germs of worship of great powers to infiltrate the minds of men like Ji Kap Ryong—the idea that only a war between the Soviet Union and Japan would create a decisive opportunity for liberating Korea and that we could defeat Japan only with the help of such a great power as the Soviet Union.

The Japanese foreign minister's visit to Moscow to sign the neutrality pact with the Soviet

Union was no more than a smokescreen. The Japanese were always looking for a chance to push north, in other words, to attack the Soviet Union. Japan and Germany had agreed in secret to cooperate in an attack on the Soviet Union, and planned to divide the vast territory of the Soviet Union into two parts, with the Urals as the demarcation line 'to be occupied by each from the east and west, respectively.

However, Japan was not yet strong enough to invade the Soviet Union. So the southward policy got the upper hand. It was Japan's intention to occupy Southeast Asia, store up sufficient strategic reserves and then march into the Soviet Far East and swallow up the region as far as the line of the Urals only after Nazi Germany had inflicted fatal wounds on the Soviet Union. The strategy could be likened to the proverb, "waiting for a persimmon to ripen and fall of its own accord." Japan's signing of the neutrality pact with the Soviet Union was a contortion in her timetable.

As German forces invaded the Soviet Union two months after the signing of the pact, Japan immediately ordered her Kwantung Army to stage "special exercises". This was as good as a preliminary order for a war against the Soviet Union. During these exercises the strength of the Kwantung Army on the Soviet-Manchurian border doubled. This revealed what the Japanese really had in mind.

The mere fact that Matsuoka, the mastermind of the neutrality pact, asserted that a war against the Soviet Union was imminent shows how cunning and brazen-faced the Japanese ruling circles were.

Was the Soviet Union fooled by this trick of the Japanese? It knew Japan's strategy too well for that. Seeing, however, that Japan was taking the initiative in proposing to maintain peaceful relations and respect each other's territorial integrity, the Soviet Union, that had been guarding against a possible pincer attack from the east and west by Japan and Germany, felt that this was a lucky chance. In those days the Soviet Union was faced with an unprecedented threat of invasion by Nazi Germany. The large German forces massed on its western frontier might attack at any time. Japan's professed neutrality in this situation, in spite of her covetous eye on Siberia, gave the Soviet Union the respite of a possible delay in having to fight a two-front war.

When Matsuoka was leaving Moscow, Stalin was said to have seen him off at the railway station. This fact eloquently spoke of the mental state of the Soviet leadership on the eve of the Soviet-German War.

So how ignorant it was to think that the Soviet Union had become a friend of Japan by signing the neutrality pact!

The more tense the situation is, the soberer must be the estimate and judgment of it. If you take a phenomenon at its face value, failing to see through its essence, you are liable to make a fatal mistake. Ji Kap Ryong made such a mistake.

Ji Kap Ryong's defection was also called the Wangbabozi incident.

The incident took place in the spring of 1941, when I was operating in the Antu area in command of a small unit. From a base in Hanconggou, I was directing small units and groups operating in different areas. The greatest difficulty we had at that time was the fact that all the local people were confined in internment villages. We had to get in touch with them, but it was not easy.

The only way was to obtain help from the hunters, charcoal burners and medicinal-herb collectors who used to roam the mountains. Hunters caught deer from early spring to autumn. They caught them by digging pits, in which they placed metal-tipped stakes, and then covering them with thin twigs and grass before spreading salt on top. Deer which stepped on the grass to lick the salt would fall into the pit and get pierced by the stakes.

If we dealt with these hunters tactfully, we could get in touch with secret organizations and learn the enemy's movements.

I divided the small unit into several groups, which I dispatched on missions to different places. Ji Kap Ryong and Kim Pong Rok were sent to Wangbabozi to work among the local inhabitants and obtain food.

Headquarters ordered the leaders of these small groups to report the results of their work once every five days. But no report came from Ji's

group. This was unusual. I had to send a responsible man to find out the situation with Ji's group, but I had no one. At that very moment Ryu Kyong Su's group returned to Headquarters. Kim 1k Hyon and Xu Bao-ren, a soldier of Chinese nationality, were the other members of Ryu's group. The three of them were tough men, as hard as birch trees, but their appearance was appalling.

They said they had experienced manifold hardships; they had run out of food; they had had to make a detour twice as long as planned, because the Fuerhe River was swollen; and one of them had suffered from cramp in his stomach. To make matters worse, they had encountered an armed band of immigrants from the Ryukyu Islands in Japan disguised as peasants when they were passing Dapuchaihe or somewhere. They had had a hard time of it pursued by these people.

On hearing about this armed band, I thought the Japanese imperialists were really nasty and cunning.

Ryu Kyong Su and Kim 1k Hyon told me the story in turn.

The band numbered about 100. As they wore peasant clothes and were sowing seeds, our men thought they might obtain food with their help. This got them into trouble.

Hiding by the roadside, our men watched for a chance. When they saw a man walking to the edge of the field, they told him that they were anti-Japanese guerrillas, and asked him if he could help them buy food. But the peasant did not understand them. Perceiving that he understood neither Korean nor Chinese, they thought he must be deaf. So they tried gestures. Only then did he understand.

The peasant walked slowly back into the field, and then all of a sudden shouted something. Immediately, the men in the field scattered here and there and took up rifles from behind piles of stones and bushes. They pounced upon our men, firing and shouting. Simultaneously, two machine-guns began to fire.

They were almost trapped. They ran for more than a mile, and sank down exhausted as soon as they had thrown off their pursuers. By chance they found some potatoes in a field, boiled them and ate them. They could not find the owner of the field, so they wrapped in oil paper 50 *yuan* to pay for the potatoes, fastened it on a pole and set the pole at the edge of the field so that the owner would notice it. In those days a draught ox cost about 50 *yuan,* and they left 50 *yuan* as the price of a few potatoes!

The fact that they encountered a band of Ryukyuan immigrants armed even with machine-guns speaks volumes about how trying the circumstances were in the days of small-unit actions. In order to disintegrate the revolutionary ranks the enemy enlisted every means and method conceivable.

When he knew that somebody had to go to see what was the matter with Ji Kap Ryong's group, Kim Ik Hyon, though utterly exhausted, volunteered for the mission.

The next day, I dispatched him to Wangbabozi.

Kim 1k Hyon found that Ji Kap Ryong, out of defeatism, had totally neglected the assignments entrusted to him by Headquarters. Ji was spending most of his time, from morning till evening, looking down at a village from the top of a mountain.

Having gone hungry for four days, Kim Pong Rok was lying in a lean-to. He told Kim 1k Hyon that he had not performed his mission, and felt too listless to go to Headquarters to make a report.

When Ji Kap Ryong returned to the hut, Kim Ik Hyon reasoned with him: "Nearly ten days have passed since you came here on a mission. Is it right just to hang around here without making a report to Headquarters? Let's meet hunters this very evening and set to work.".

Ji Kap Ryong said the situation was dangerous so they had to wait. However hard Kim 1k Hyon tried to persuade him, it fell on deaf ears.

(To be continued)

From Chapter 28 "In Alliance With the International Anti-Imperialist Forces," Part 1 "The Anti-Japanese Revolution"

Brilliant Life

Kim Chol Ju.

Indefatigable fighter Kim Chol Ju was an ardent revolutionary who was boundlessly loyal to the leader and his cause for national liberation and the people's emancipation.

He was born in Mangyongdae, Mangyongdae District, Pyongyang (present name) on June 12, Juche 5 (1916) as the second son of Kim Hyong Jik, an outstanding leader of the anti-Japanese national liberation movement in Korea, and Kang Pan Sok, a pioneer of the Korean women's movement.

Born into a patriotic and revolutionary family which had fought resolutely from generation to generation against foreign invaders for the sake of the country and people, Kim Chol Ju grew into a staunch fighter with an indomitable fighting spirit and noble revolutionary traits, while receiving education from his parents and under the guidance and care of President Kim Ii Sung.

From the first days of setting out on the road of revolution, Kim Chol Ju resolutely fought to implement the President's Juche-oriented revolutionary line and policies and showed how a soldier of the leader should uphold him and his cause by setting a fine example himself.

At the time when the President put forward the line of the armed struggle, Kim Chol Ju actively explained and propagated the President's line of armed struggle among the broad masses of people. By doing so, he led the young people to take the lead in forming militant ranks for the anti-Japanese armed struggle on the one hand and, on the other, actively conducted vigorous political propaganda so that people could give assistance to this undertaking both materially and morally.

After the foundation of the Anti-Japanese People's Guerrilla Army, he sent systematically fine young people trained at the Young Communist League organizations to anti-Japanese armed units. In addition, he carried on energetic activities to defend the guerrilla bases and lay the foundations for the armed struggle.

A man of sentiment unusually full of revolutionary optimism, he worked hard to firmly build up the Young Communist League organizations. At the same time, he conducted multifarious performance activities by creating revolutionary songs and dramas. And he himself appeared on the stage to raise the class awareness of the youth and the rest of people from all walks of life.

The destroyed revolutionary organizations in several regions in Antu County which had been faced with ordeals temporarily owing to the Japanese punitive offensive were rehabilitated rapidly, and the people in this county gave positive assistance to the Korean People's Revolutionary Army led by President Kim IL Sung, relying on each other and in firm unity. Credit for this went to
Kim Chol Ju's energetic endeavours.

He accomplished valuable exploits in forming an anti-Japanese united front of Korean and Chinese peoples.

Through his fluent, well-reasoned fiery speech, his extraordinary insight of making a clearcut analysis of and passing a fair.judgement on matters and situations, his persuasive power of great influence and his persevering and reasoned operations, he awakened those of the upper strata and rank and file of the Chinese nationalist anti-Japanese units and stirred up their hearts and thus brought forth good fruit in forming a united front with them.

Kim Chol Ju made much of the people with great affection and had such a disposition as making every effort for the sake of the people and his comrades, without taking care of himself. Therefore, he was held in great affection and respect by them.

When guiding the organizational life of the members of the Young Communist League or conducting political work among the masses, he did his work in keeping with the demand level, emotion and characteristic feature of each person. He always solved all problems skillfully by relying on the masses and setting practical examples himself. For such human attraction he enjoyed their implicit confidence.

Indeed, he was a model revolutionary who considered the line and policies set forth by the President to be his firm conviction and who dedicated his all to the struggle for the victory of the anti-Japanese revolutionary struggle.

Kim Chol Ju who was conducting political and military activities, braving through all difficulties and ordeals for Korea's liberation and for the people's freedom and emancipation died a heroic death in a fierce battle on June 14, 1935.

Writing about Kim Chol Ju's revolutionary activities in his reminiscences **"With the Century"** President Kim Ii Sung said: "His life was but a flicker of light."

Kim Chol Ju left us too early.. But for the exploits he performed on the road of pioneering the Juche revolutionary cause, he still lives in the hearts of us the Korean people, and he will always be with us.

Single-Hearted Unity Based on Revolutionary Comradeship

The Korean people won consecutive victories with the might of single-hearted unity in the 20th century filled with stirring events, and they are now speeding up their grand march of the 21st century, rallied firmly behind leader Kim Jong 11.

The single-hearted unity they have invariably maintained year after year and century after century is very firm and mighty, for it is based on revolutionary comradeship.

In revolution there are strategies which are vital to its fate and ideas which statesmen put forward for victory and success. In the history of the revolutionary straggle of the working class, too, there were noble views and standpoints on comradeship. But no great man regarded the value and might of comradeship as precious and put it forward as the most reasonable theory of the revolution and its greatest might like President Kim IL Sung and leader Kim Jong Ii.

Kim Jong IL said:

"Revolutionary comradeship is the basis of the unity of our Party and the revolutionary ranks. The unity of the Party and the revolutionary ranks should be achieved on

the basis of revolutionary **comradeship without fail."**

Revolutionary comradeship is the noble ideological feeling shared between the revolutionary comrades who are fighting on in the same rank to attain the same object and ideal.

People form comradely relation, a new human relation, on the road of revolution. Comrades are like-minded persons who have the same idea and purpose and share fate with each other on the road of revolution. This comradely relation can be formed only when deep trust and warm love are shared by the people in the process of making the revolution, and only those who are ready to die for their comrades can have their true comrades. Love for one's parents and wife and children and friendship, both based on humanly ties, are confined within narrow limits of family and a few people, but the revolutionary comradeship pervades the revolutionary ranks as a whole, making it possible to overcome severe ordeals and survive life-or-death crises. It represents the acme of human love, and it can alone render it possible to turn the revolutionary ranks into a firm, united whole.

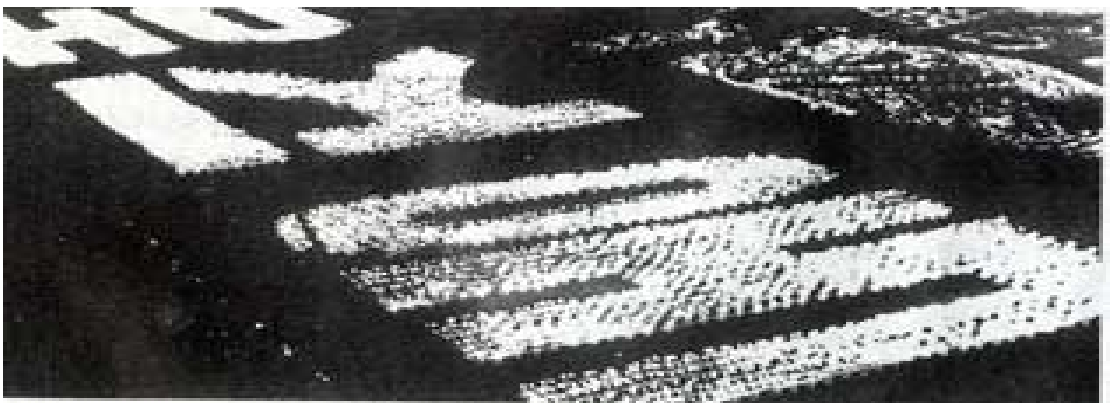
The revolutionary ranks are a socio-political collective made up of the leader, the Party and the masses of people, and revolutionary unity is the organizational and ideological combination of members of the collective. This unity can be the solidest and invincible one which nothing can break when it is based on trust, love and lofty moral obligation between the comrades.

This unity is the source of invincibility of the revolutionary ranks and is a sure guarantee for all victories.

The Korean revolution boasts of its brilliant history of comradeship: It started with comradeship and has advanced, winning victory after victory, relying on the might of comradeship.

Recorded in the long course of the Korean revolution from its outset to the present are solemn epics which will go down through generations as an immortal tradition before our age and history.

The revolutionary soldiers, loyalists burning with comradeship were always united firmly behind President Kim II Sung and leader Kim Jong IL and inseparable ties of kinship existed between the leader and



This torchlight procession represents "comradeship"

the soldiers. That is why our people could defeat any formidable enemy and obtain billliant results in all spheres of the revolution and construction.

The history of comradeship of the Korean revolution is precisely the history of single-hearted unity. Ever since the start of the history of revolutionary comradeship the noble tradition of single-hearted unity has been built up and this unity has been consolidated as firm as a rock with the progress of the history of comradeship.

Respected President Kim Ii Sung brought about a new beginning for the Korean revolution under the banner of the Down-with-Imperialism Union in the 20s in the previous century. Since then the Korean revolution has followed the path of victory and honour, surmounting innumerable trying ordeals. The whole course it has traversed is a course of single-hearted unity in which the steadfast relationship of comradely love has been expanded and developed, thus leading the Juche-based revolutionary ranks to form a thick forest.

Today our single-hearted unity has reached a very high stage under the seasoned guidance of Kim Jong IL who is leading the revolutionary ranks through the philosophy of comradeship. His warm love for comrades is the motive power which has turned all our people into true loyalists who absolutely worship their leaders, President Kim IL Sung and Comrade Kim Jong II, follow them and fight on by forging the ties of kinship with their leader and which has convened our revolutionary ranks into the ranks of single-hearted unity in which all people are firmly united ideologically and in moral obligation, basing themselves on the one and only centre and idea. The leader boundlessly trusts and loves his people and the people put boundless confidence in their leader and follow him. As it is based on such revolutionary comradeship, our single-hearted unity constitutes the great banner which brings about constant progress, victory and honour even under any trying ordeal.

Indeed, revolutionary comradeship is the fundamental hearted unity and the solidity and invincibility of our unity can hardly be thinkable apart from comradeship. The deep trust and love of the leader who values the people as his revolutionary comrades at all times and the noble obligation and confidence of the people who uphold their leader with loyalty and follow him, the warm ties of kinship between the revolutionary comrades and the unified body of the revolutionary ranks based on them —this is the true appearance of Korea. And herein lie the invincibility of single-hearted unity and the firm guarantee for eternal victory.

Standing in the van of our revolution advancing towards a bright future of the new century is great leader Kim Jong II, the incarnation of comradeship, and rallied close behind him are the people. So long as there exist such revolutionary ranks of singlehearted unity the Juche revolutionary cause of Korea will continue to win victory after victory.

Jon Jong Ho

Holding the Banner of Juche Idea in 21st Century, Too

I paid the seventh visit to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. During my stay in Korea this time I have learned much by taking part in a meeting for exchanging experiences attended by representatives from many organizations for the study of the Juche idea.

I studied Marxism-Leninism and deeply studied the Juche idea as well. The conclusion I have reached in this process is that the Juche idea is the most scientific theory.

This idea established a man-centred outlook on the world by throwing a fresh light on the essential characteristics of man and his position and role in the world.

It clarifies the laws of historical development and social revolution. It has newly made clear the fundamental principles of the social movement, the revolutionary movement, of the working masses who create and develop history.

Present at the meeting, Ihave perceived more clearly the truth and validity of the Juche idea, which was founded by President Kim IL Sung and is being developed and enriched constantly by leader Kim Jong IL.

The idea and theory of Juche which Kim Jong IL has developed in conformity with the demand of developing reality are the banner of struggle to be held aloft by mankind.

They constitute a ray of hope of the world progressives guaranteeing the future of mankind, because they give perfect answers to all problems arising in the present century and centuries ahead. The system of cold war between the East and the West collapsed and multilateral international relations are now being established gradually. This international situation proves that the Juche idea, defending the independence of man and that of country and nation and showing the most correct way of building an independent new world, is a great guiding idea which scientifically indicates the orientation of development of human history.

In the 21st century the Juche idea will shed a more brilliant light. The bright future of mankind rests with the Juche idea. The progressive peoples will emerge victorious under the banner of this idea. The will of the world progressives to study hard the Juche idea and advance under its banner in the 21st century, too, is becoming firmer as the days go by.

The DPRK is going ahead dynamically under the guidance of Kim Jong Ii, surmounting all difficulties and holding high the banner of the Juche idea. The Korean people will surely build a strong, prosperous country.

***Mis atafa Jaber,* Chairman of the Jordanian National Committee for the Study of the Juche Idea**

Women War Veterans' Chorus

If you visit Sojang-dong, Pothonggang District in Pyongyang, you can see a women war veterans' chorus which gives strength and courage to the people.

They participated in the Fatherland Liberation War (June 1950-July 1953) and their average age is 66.

Seven years have passed since they organized the chorus. From then on they conducted agitational work more than 800 times at hundreds of construction sites, bringing with them dozens of songs, including wartime songs "My Song from Trenches" and "Song of National Defence".

It was not because they were specially talented in music that they conducted agitational work by forming a chorus though they were grey-headed.

It was out of sheer desire to do what little they could so as to repay the benefits of the state which takes good care of them, valuing the meritorious deed they did in the past and giving prominence to them as a precious asset for the victory in our revolution.

Nowadays in East European countries where socialism has collapsed and capitalism has revived, war veterans are so hard up for jobs and living that they sell off their medals and military uniforms and get overseas, abandoning even their beloved homelands which they defended at the cost of their blood.

But in our country war veterans are living in comfort for the rest of their days under the warm care of the state and society.

In recent years our country was in a very difficult state owing to the imperialists' machinations to isolate and stifle it and the natural disasters that lasted several years. However, the state provides them with provisions every month, let them move into new flats and serve them first wherever they go.

Their resolve to repay the state benefits was put in practice.

In this process they had to surmount many obstacles. As they were old, they could not make enough sound nor could they sing songs skillfully, harmonizing their voices with one another. So some of them expressed apprehension as to whether they could go through with this undertaking.

To those who lost confidence in their work, Hong In Suk, head of the chorus, said:

"How can we be called soldiers who fought on the frontline in the past with arms in hand if we yield to such minor difficulties? We should form the chorus and conduct agitational work as we determined, even if we fall ten or a hundred times."

At her words they redoubled their efforts by bracing themselves up.

They called on experts to learn from them while giving themselves up to practice.

Officials from their dong and district people's committees also gave them a great help.

Their burning enthusiasm bore fruit.

In a short period they completed the repertoire of performance on the theme of "We Will Follow the General for Ever".

They set out on the road of agitation for increased production, bringing with them a repertoire made up of stories of battle feats, true stories, wartime songs and revolutionary pieces of music famous in our time.

They first set their foot on the

Komdok Mine in South Hamgyong Province, then Huichon city in Jagang Province, collieries in the Anju area, South Phyongan Province, and other important sectors of the national economy. In these days, their successful singing of wartime songs as well as their high artistic skill moved deeply the hearts of the people.

Last year they went to the Chonsong Youth Colliery and conducted agitation for increased production, finding their way into some four-km-long hewing faces.

Deeply impressed with their songs, coal miners stretched out their big fingers at times, saying:

"There's something extraordinary in war veterans." And they shouted the slogans, which contained their resolve to contribute their worthy, share to the country with more coal production and sang songs with them at other times. Inspired by their agitational work, the coal miners have been exceeding their quota every month since then.

Their performance at the Huichon Machine-tool Factory also touched the heartstrings of the workers and evoked an enthusiastic encore whenever every item was over.

After seeing the performance, the manager of the processing workshop said:

"Though they are not celebrated singers, the wartime songs sung by these war veterans make us fully aware of the preciousness of our fatherland and teach us how to work to bring glory to it."

Wartime songs and contemporary famous songs they sing, with their breasts ablaze with decorations, kindle flames of innovations wherever they visit.

Song Thue Hwa

The Murmur of the Karim Stream

The clear water of the Karim stream flows on
The forest of larch sways on
Konjang Hill.

Whenever I call up every line of the song "Pochonbo, the Land of Glory" the Pochonbo revolutionary battle site floats vividly before my eyes and the murmur of the Karim stream skirting this battle site at the foot of Konjang Hill seems to come to my ears.

The murmur of the stream comes nearer and dearer to every heart with the passage of time.

What does it teach Koreans?

A **panorama of the Pochonbo town and the fort of the police substation in the time of the Pochonbo battle.**

The Karim stream is a 60-km-long mountain stream in Korea. But it is enshrined dear in the hearts of Koreans.

When it flowed carrying the sorrow and grudge of the stateless Korean people, it was a stream unknown to them.

It was after the Pochonbo battle that the stream came to their knowledge.

On June 4, Juche 26 (1937), President Kim IL Sung crossed the stream and made the first gun report of the Pochonbo battle under a poplar on its bank. At this signal the battle started and Pochonbo, one of Japanese imperialists' military strongholds, was engulfed in flames and their police substation and other ruling agencies were all riddled with shots. The battle struck a telling blow at the "great empire of Japan" boasting of itself as one of the five strong powers of the world. The news of its victory gave the hope of national revival to Koreans languishing under Japanese colonial rule.

The Karim stream became a historic stream associated with the President in his 20s.

In June of Juche 45 (1956) leader Kim Jong Ii visited Pochonbo, leading Korea's first Mt. Paektu revolutionary battlesite exploring party. The Karim stream seemed to welcome him with joy.

Today people visit Pochonbo from all over the country along the exploration route opened by him.

The statue of President Kim Ii Sung representing Mt. Paektu's young general now stands on the bank of the stream against green fir and other trees. The vestiges of the historic battle remain vividly.

There are rivers famed for their length in the world and other rivers boast of their basin areas, volumes ot water and scenic beauty. but the liorean people hold dear the Karim stream associated with Mt. Paektu generals' revolutionary exploits and bearing their footprints.

Under a brilliant leader once nameless rivers and mountains become famous and honoured.

The murmur of the Karim stream flowing singing of growing happiness is a song in high praise of our fortunate ppople who are blessed with leaders and generals from generation to generation.

The Yanggakdo International Hotel

The Yanggakdo International Hotel which stands in the middle of the Taedong River in Pyongyang, is one of the luxury hotels in Korea.

The 48-storeyed hotel has 1,000 rooms, a wading pool, a sauna, rooms for massage, game, billiards and karaoke and all other facilities are exquisitely arranged. A banquet hall that can accomodate 850 people, restaurants, a roundtable conference hall which can offer a multilingual simultaneous interpretation back up the hotel's wonderfulness.

International postage and correspondence service is also provided with credit.

The revolving restaurant on the top of the hotel which commands a panorama of Pyongyang, outdoor golf course and outdoor grilled steak service are an additional enjoyment to the guests. ❑

An outer view of the hotel.

The ground-floor hallway.

A shop.

The golf course.

The revolving restaurant caps the hotel.

The banquet hall.

A bedroom.

The swimming pool.

The roundtable conference hall.

Kyongryon Aeguk Soda Plant

The sun is pouring down heated rays, as if to scorch everything on the earth. People are alternatively crowding ubiquitous refreshment stalls.

"It's really a cooling soda. Now I'm living again," says a man.

Another put in, "The soda has cooled me in an instant. I fancy nothing is better than the soda."

The demand for the soda pop is tremendous. The refreshing, sweet soda that gives you a cooling at a gulp is produced by a plant in the capital city of Korea, that is, the Kyongryon Aeguk Soda Plant, located at Raeng-chon-dong, Tongdaewon District.

The story of the plant is closely associated with the origin of the locality.

There in that district is a hill called Munsu-bong that is 68 metres above sea level. From ancient times the hill was renowned for its lush woods and scenic beauty, hence a public resort. It was all the more popluar for spring water that had special taste and effect. One day a paraplegic patient came to the hill. He drank the spring water and had baths for five months, before he recovered from paraplegia. His treatment story spread to encourage people with paraplegia, cutaneous diseases, sterility and other disorders to visit the hill. In the course a shower bath ground, wells, pubs and other services came into existence.

Forty years ago a soda plant, which began to use the spring water as the raw material, was set up at the place. The plant was originally named after the locality. Later in Juche 61 (1972) it was renamed into the Kyongryon Aeguk Soda Plant to honour a Korean resident in Japan, Pak Kyong Ryon, who donated a complete set of necessary equipment to the plant.

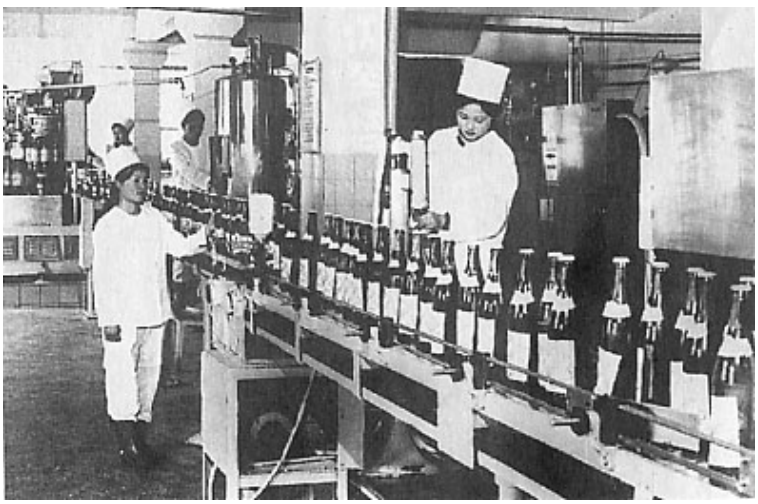
The whole production process that occupies 20,000 square metres is thoroughly automated. Scores of millions of bottles of quality soda are turned out annually to be supplied to shops and catering networks.

The quality is of high standard. It contains 0.4 per cent of carbon dioxide, 8 per cent of sugar and is flavoured with the strawberry and other things. It is instantly absorbed into the human body to relieve him of his fatigue.

The material and technical foundation of the plant has been cemented with each passing day. The average skill level of the employees is D class. Women workers account for 70 per cent of the employees and many of them have worked there for dozens of years.

Competent engineers who learned at the Han Tok Su Pyongyang Light Industry University, the University of Construction and Building Materials Industry and other higher educational institutions are in charge of the technical development of the plant. These days the management and workers of the plant are simultaneously promoting the scheme to double the production capacity and improve the quality of the soda in keeping with the increasing demand of the public.

Yom Song Hui



High-quality soda is produced.

Pyongyang Rubber Factory

Recently I visited the Pyongyang Rubber Factory on the Taedong riverside.

When I got to the monument erected to immortalize the wise leadership of the three generals –Kim Il Sung, Kim Jong Il and Kim Jong Suk – passing by the workers' house of culture, factory manager Kim Ki Yong who was my guide said:

"Our factory is significant, indeed. Not long after our country's liberation (August 1945) the fatherly leader President Kim Il Sung personally designated the site for the construction of our factory in this scenic spot on the Taedong riverside, saying that a rubber factory should be set up in our country so as to produce rubber goods imperatively needed in the people's living and in various sectors of the national economy.

"In the early days our factory was small and its equipment was negligible. But it has now turned into a large factory which can easily produce any kind of rubber goods if we are determined to."

Attentive to his explanation, I headed for the production site. Visible here and there along the road in the factory compound were various powerful militant slogans, including "Let us open the way through the new century in the spirit of the victorious 'Arduous March'!"

I dropped in at the preparatory workshop first.

The workshop manager said:

"Our country has no raw materials necessary for the production of rubber goods. Such being the situation, we tried to produce composite rubber and our effort has been crowned with success. So, no more the short supply of materials makes us feel a difficulty in ensuring production without suspension." As if giving positive proof of what he said, lumps of crude rubber cut off by the cutting machine were piled up in heaps on the worktable in a little while and well-boiled composite rubber poured out of every rolling machine without letup.

Trucks loaded with composite rubber were seen heading for the processing workshop. Looking at them, I started for the conveyor workshop.

What caught my eyes first were thick flat pieces of rubber coming out of the processing machine. They were being converted into finished goods, pressed down by the 10-metre-long compressor. This was well worth seeing. But more attractive was a scene of the winder putting out rolls of rubber.

I also saw the process of making cotton cloth coated with thin or thick rubber.

Workers were quite good hands at machine operation. I told the workshop manager that the skill level of the workers seemed to be very high. Hearing this, he said: "It is still far from the expected level. I am going to raise their average skill level a grade higher within this year. Our country will advance much faster as it has such workers who do not rest on their laurels. Thinking in this manner, I turned my steps towards the hose workshop.

I could guess at the fiery zeal of the workers for production at the mere sight of various high-pressure rubber hoses piled up on the floor. Looking round the production site carefully, I learned that the steam tank, the rolling machine, the injection moulding machine for hose production and the horizontal cutter were all astir with production activity.

I met the operator intent on hose production in front of his injection moulding machine. He said to me: "Over the past several years we had to undergo many difficulties and hardships. We got irritated whenever we were compelled to suspend our work on account of the exhaustion of production materials. But now we have enough materials, so we are elated with work. I am going to work more and harder and give our country what little help I can.

After a visit to that workshop, I dropped in at the belt workshop and the branch factories for cooperative production as well. The branch factories were engaged in the production of a wide variety of gaskets, rubber boots and gloves, hoses and other kinds of daily necessities.

Convinced that they would register much better results in production, I left the factory.

Sim Chol Yong

Production of composite rubber.

"Family of Locomotive Engineers"

People call the family of dispatcher Kim Ii Yo at the West Pyongyang Locomotive Corps a "family of locomotive engineers".

Out of the four family members, he and his two sons not only have connection with locomotives but also are widely known as labour innovators.

Kim Ii Yo worked as a locomotive engineer for 27 years.

During that period he over fulfilled his annual assignments every year and distinguished himself as one of the locomotive engineers whose volume of freight haulage was regarded as the largest.

His enthusiasm for work knows no bounds. He concentrates all his thinking and practice on his work, always saying:

"After all, locomotive engineers should carry freight in large quantities."

He hit on a capital idea of making the locomotives heavier without making not so much effort and put forward a series of technical innovation proposals, including the invention of a skidding prevention device.

Thus he made sure that the hauling capacity of locomotives increased over 2.5 times as much.

He is well acquainted with the block of railroad track under his charge.

Well aware of how the railway tracks are affected by the seasonal and weather changes, he takes flexible measures at all times.

That is why young locomotive engineers say that they feel quite reassured if he happens to be by.

As he has a thorough knowledge of the inside of the locomotive, he finds out promptly and correctly what part of equipment inside is out of order even by hearing a sound and takes a proper measure for repairs. Small wonder that people call him a person with an all-round capability and often ask the secret of him.

Then he advises them to study harder and to be attached to their occupation, saying: "When thinking of how can we transport freight faster and more, I don't feel like drawing a line between the task to be done by others and that of mine."

Father and Sons are all relate4 to the locomotive.

Father Kim IL Yo.

Son Kim Hak Min.

Son Kim Hak Myong.

To him there is neither red-letter day nor holiday.

When he was single, he was always at his workplace, saying:

"One should work more in one s youthful days." And after making a home of his own, he braced himself up more, saying: "One should be honourable before the younger generation."

He is now dedicating much time *(To be continued on page 25)*

North-South Joint Declaration, Landmark of National Reunification

A year has already passed since the Pyongyang meeting of the top leaders and the publication of the historic North-South Joint Declaration which caused a sensational quake across the north and the south of Korea and the international community.

As an event ever seen in the past 55 years since the Korean nation was bisected, the Pyongyang meeting of the top leaders of the two an the publication of the joint declaration were epoch-making in the history of Korea and the humankind; they were a capital event in terms of either sensations at home and abroad or the influence on the north-south relations, reunification efforts and the international political situation.

The joint declaration has brought about miraculous progresses in the north-south relations and the national reunification moyement.

Several rounds of ministerial talks and red-cross talks took p lace to promote the reconciliation and unity of the nation and breathed a fresh breath into the march to reunification. Other noteworthy happenings were the return home of the 63 former unconverted long-term prisoners from the south to the north, exchanges of art and sports groups, the south media delegation's visit to Pyongyang and the north-south academic workshop on the illegality of Japan's occupation of Korea. The three-round mutual visits of separated families and relatives in the two regions until last February were significant occasions to see the reunion of those who had heard nothing from one another for half a century since their split.

Correspondence exchanges between the families and relatives whose existence and addresses had been identified, and the work to verify their existence and addresses has continued.

The five-time inter-Korean military working-level talks brought about a consensus of the "agreement on designating areas to be placed under the control of the north and the south and militarily ensuring the projects to relink railways and highways between the north and the south".

All these achievements prove that the June 15 declaration is truly a justified and realistic joint programme of the nation that accords well with the people's desire for reunification and the development of the reunification movement; no doubt it is a strong impetus to the nation's effort for a reunified country.

The north-south declaration is a landmark of national reunification because it specifies the basic principle and way to be followed in the reunification movement.

The north and the south already defined independence, peaceful reunification and great national unity as the three principles of national reunification in May 1972 and published the July 4 joint statement to stipulate the principles as the joint reunification programme of the nation.

The June 15 joint declaration makes it clear that the north and the south agreed to solve the question of the country's reunification independently by concerted efforts of the Korean nation responsible for it; this is a good resuscitation of the three principles of national reunification.

The keynote of the declaration is the commitment to deal with the problem of reunification with the independent efforts of the north and the south. This means that the authorities of the north and the south and all the Koreans responsible for the reunification solve the reunification problem by their own efforts in conformity with their interests and requirements rejecting any foreign domination and intervention.

The significance of the declaration as the landmark of reunification lies also in that it is a representation of the demand and interests of the Korean nation. It reads that the north and the south, recognizing that the low-level federation proposed by the north and the commonwealth system proposed by the south for the reunification of the country have similarity, agreed to work together for the reunification in this direction in the future. Thus the declaration produced an agreement on the formula of achieving reunification on the basis of leaving the existing ideas and systems as they are, making it possible to determine the joint way and task of reunification reflecting the demand and interests of the two sides and lay a footing to make joint efforts for reunification.

The joint declaration also says that the north and the south agreed to promote the balanced development of the national economy through economic cooperation and build mutual confidence by activating cooperation and exchange in all fields, social, cultural, sports, public health, environmental and so on. This provision is an expression that the Korean people in the north and the south are eager to pool their efforts to build a powerful country.

The joint declaration is an excellent illumination of the way to reunification in the new century, a reliable opener of the bright prospect of reunification that is unprecedented in the scores of years of national division.

There are still many difficulties and obstacles in the way to Korea's reunification project. If the declaration is maintained with respect and confidence and is thoroughly implemented, however, the national reunification movement will surely make a sound and healthy progress.

Sung Ji Hye

Books and Collection of Poems Published Abroad

Many books rolled off the press abroad. They include books "Red Flag Fluttering High" and "Kim Jong Li, Determined and Brilliant Commander" and a collection of poems "Mother of Revolution" published in Peru, books "Kim long IL, Supreme Leader of Korea" and "Far, yet Near Korea" (vol. 1) in Bulgaria, book "Kim long IL's Benevolent Politics" in Jordan, book "Fortune of Korea" in Lebanon and book "Quality of Leader" in Pakistan.

Described in the books are the enduring exploits performed by three generals of Mt. Paektu—Kim 11 Sung, Kim long Ii and Kim long Suk—and their great personalities and realities of socialist Korea advancing with the red flag flying.

The Baktapur Korea study group in Nepal issued commemorative book "The Compass".

The book carries the golden sayings of leader Kim long Ii. His sayings give encouragement and powerful impetus to the struggle of the world progressives for the accomplishment of the cause of independence, it noted.

Reflecting his birthday (February 16), 216 of his sayings are compiled in this book.

A book "Three Generals of Mt. Paektu and the Looks of Korea" was published in Bulgaria. It is written by those who were received in audience by President Kim Ii Sung and by the visitors to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

It is provided with the following table of contents:

1. Retrospecting the days of being honoured with the audience of President Kim Ii Sung
2. Mother of the General
3. The Sun shines over the land
4. The great man and the national power of luche Korea

Recollecting the honourable days when they met the President both in Bulgaria and socialist Korea, the authors wrote that his exploits performed for the Korean revolution and the realization of the independent cause of humankind are decorated as the feats shining in the political history of humankind.

Extolling the feats of anti-Japanese woman hero Kim Jong Suk who had assisted the work of the President, herself becoming sunlight, and the great achievements she had made for the future of Korea both in the days of the anti-Japanese revolutionary struggle and in the days of trying ordeals after the country's liberation, they wrote that the Korean people owe their history of creation and transformation for the building of a powerful nation today to the prominent leadership of Kim long Ii.

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to the training of the reserves.

Making much of locomotives and taking good care of them—this is what he teaches first to the trainees.

The practical example he has set for this purpose is considered to be a silent teacher.

He does not allow anyone to violate the rules even a bit and makes a strong demand that everyone do his task to the last without giving it up halfway, once he is assigned to do it.

But he pays close attention even to the trifling matters related to their private life and shows concern for them. Therefore, people deeply respect and follow him.

When his two sons finished senior middle school, he said without asking about their wish: "You both should become locomotive e eers." These words of his reflected his heart's desire for his two sons.

The railwayman's uniform and the locomotive engineer's arm band were the ones his sons saw first alter their birth, and got accustomed to in the course of their growth. This, it seemed, caused them to make no try to find their job elsewhere.

Moreover, a touching scene they had seen before was still vivid in their memory—a scene of their father entering the railway station with his locomotive pulling 80 goods wagons. Those present on the platform had greeted him with wild applause amid the playing of welcome music, some of them presenting him with bunches of flowers and others throwing confetti at him. His figure they had seen that day was ever present in their minds, making them feel a great pride in having him as their father.

"We, too, must work hard like our father", they thought. This made them cherish no other intention, though there were many places they could visit to get a job fit for them.

His older son Kim Hak Min and his younger son Kim Hak Myong are now at work at the same locomotive corps as assistant locomotive engineers.

People say to them "Like father, Like son," but they are not satisfied with their compliment.

They are determined to work harder and become heroes.

The attention of father and his two sons is focussed on their locomotives, awake or asleep. Behind them is the housekeeper of this family Kim Yong Suk who takes upon herself all domestic affairs with a bright smile at all times, spanng no pains.

Charmed by the fact that they both were labour innovators, the couple had made home.

Their minds to be honourable before their motherland remain unchanged at present as in the days when they fell in love with each other and their will also remains unshaken-the will to do their duty as citizens of our Republic and to make their sons follow suit.

Our people respect and give prominence to such a fine family and follow its example.

A Young Fantast

Jang Hyon Hui.

Jang Hyon Hui is known as a "doctor of biology" at the Moran-bong Senior Middle School No. 1. The fifth-year student was a "great" accordionist and the leader in any subject taught at the primary school. Her prime-mover life continued up in her senior middle school days.

A curious and tenacious girl, Jang could hardly bring herself to sleep one day when she saw the first science documentary about the catfish. She thought hard how to raise big-bodied and fast-growing species of catfish without any determent from seasonal changes in the country.

She devoured a lot of books day and night to study the cat-fish-raising.

At the moment she heard the news that a national scientific conception contest was to be held. Now her inquisitive world spread its wings. Her room remained alight far into the night.

In two months she produced the theses "Catfish, King of Fish-breeding in the 21st Century". Made up of three chapters, the theses first touched upon the world trend of fish-breeding and how the catfish became the king of the fishes in this field. It dealt with the method of making a new kind of mother catfish with the growth hormone gene of the European catfish, the under-ground sunbeam-heated hot-house and raising catfish, the method of producing prolactin and thyroxine by the gene engineering and their utilization, the method of culturing microorganism by the use of the excrement from catfish as the feed. She wrote the importance of her theses in the relevant illustration:

"Breeding a productive species of catfish.

Intensification of land utility, growing of catfish in winter, use of organic fertilizer in vegetable gardening.

Mass production of hormone, shortening of the period of fry production.

Provision of feed for the microorganism protein, prevention and treatment of infectious diseases, cutting of the breeding time."

The theses was highly appreciated as an active application of the knowledge taught at school, as an ingenious and feasible conception of scientific qualities. Her noble mind to do what little she could to help improve the livelihood of the people earned a great sympathy from the jury. The theses won the first prize in its genre at the contest which got a store of more than 500 pieces of applications.

The emotional and lively girl does not remain content with the prize. "I want to win national contests of any kind," she says hopefully.

The bud full of dreams will bloom into a beautiful flower sooner or later.

He Dreams

Song Kwang Won.

Song Kwang Won, fourth-year student from the Pyongyang Ryongwang Senior Middle School, was nominated the champion of the national maths contest of the senior middle school students that is called the maths olympics by the students. His solutions to the total of six problems were all flawless, proving his clever and ingenious way of thinking. He was praised as another genius plus to the nation's maths intellects.

Song was not known until he was in the third year. A top honour student as he was, he was indistinguishable in study; his wearing or bearing was of little interest to others. Something special about him, if anything, is his good memory, assiduous reading, and inquisitiveness. Another strong point of his is patience and fixed inquiry.

His house is library-like. Usually he is a serious boy, but when he has got a book, he looks happy most. When he hears that there is a book he can reach out for, he tries his hardest to get it. After he has obtained it, he returns and calls out to his mother, "Mom, here's another 'teacher' of mine." Then he reads and keeps it in his shelf with care.

When he starts a book, he immerses himself in reading it

# of something Great

through. He has a unique way of reading. He compares what he reads with what he has learned from lessons and other reference books and makes his own point of view as if to ferret out a secret.

His teacher says that he has a special academic quality; "His questions are multifarious, so you have to concentrate yourself on what he asks."

His school often holds maths contests in its own right.

Once it organized a preliminary contest to make the students prepare for the coming national contest. The problems were chosen with the help of Doctors of Maths.

The three problems were to be dealt with within two .hours. The contestants racked their brains hard until about the finish time. But Song completed his problems just in over an hour. His answer did not take so much space as the others. Examining his paper the judges were surprised. Song's solutions were done with the methods taught in the second year instead of the fourth year. It was too simple an application. "Is it really the solution?" they all marvelled.

Song's unusual inquiry and concentration began to pay off. Now he won the special prize at the national maths contest of senior middle school students.

He dreams of one day being among the lineup of the first-rate scientists in the 21st century.

Yun Yong Gum

A Little Talent for National Rhythm

Kim Chol.

People still remember a little boy who excellently performed the song "Beat the Drum of Victory" with the playing of *janggo* (a Korean double-headed drum pinched in at the middle—Tr.) on the stage of the schoolchildren's new year performance this year.

Dressed neatly in national costume and having a tasselled hat on, he skillfully played on it, thus charming the whole audience.

In particular, the vertiginous speed with which he moved his hands alternately in succession, making the rhythm reach its climax, was enough to put even the professional drum players in the shade.

His performance met with whirling applause, as it gave a vivid depiction of the lively appearance of the happy younger generation of Korea, while making the best of abundant and multifarious rhythms and the rise and fall inherent in national tunes and well representing the national sentiments and cultural emotions and feelings of the Korean people.

He is none other than Kim Chol, a second-year pupil at Kumsong Senior Middle School No. 1.

He has a smooth complexion. His eyes twinkle like stars in the sky and charming dimples appear in his cheeks whenever he smiles. As his playing *janggo* is lovable, so is his personal appearance.

He is 11 years old. His father Kim Yong Gun is a worker at a seafood processing company in Sinuiju city and his mother Ri Sun Gum is an ordinary housewife.

In his nursery days, too, whenever he saw people singing and dancing merrily, beating drums, gongs or *janggoes,* he would move his shoulders up and down, keeping time with the rhythm of the tunes, and mimicked them pretty well.

Such act of his can be regarded as cute things done by a child. However, his teachers at the kindergarten and primary school did not look at it casually.

Under their special concern he acquired the technical skill of freely playing on the *janggo* in various rhythms, giving life to rich and peculiar tones of our national rhythms.

The state saw to it that he came up to Pyongyang and learned the high technical skill of playing on national percussion instruments to his heart's content and further improved his skill at the percussion instrument circle of the Mangyongdae Schoolchildren's Palace, while studying at Kumsong Senior Middle School No. 1.

He studied with ardour to deepen his knowledge on national

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Korea's Endemic Plants

Korea boasts of over 600 species of endemic plants.

Endemic plants are distributed mostly in Mts. Chuga, Kumgang, Solak and Kuwol in central Korea and also on Ullung Island in the East Sea of Korea and on Jeju Island in the South Sea of Korea.

Endemic trees are *Abies Koreana Wils* of the fir family, *Stephanandra incisa* of the bridal wreath family, *Echinosophora koreesis Nakai* of the bean family, *Abeliophyllum distichum Nakai* of the ash family, *Lindera angustifolla var. gla bra Bl.,* and many other trees.

Stephanandra incisa, Echinosophora koreesis Nakai and *Abeliophyllum distichum Nakai* are rare plants of one species of one genus in the world that grow only in Korea.

Stephanandra incisa was discovered for the first time in Korea's celebrated Mt. Kumgangin 1917.

Endemic grasses include *Rheum coreanum Nakai* of the polygonum family, *Hanabusaya asiatica Nakcn* of the bellflower family and many others.

Rheum coreanum Nakai was first introduced in 1919. It grows in the northern highland over 2,000 metres above sea level..It is also called "Korean daehwang" as it grows only in Korea.

Its root is more medicinal than other species of this grass and it is called A-daehwang" and has been widely used as a medicinal stuff from ancient times.

Hanabusaya asiatica Nakai has a high academic value in clarifying the evolution of Korea's flora and the systematic relations of the bellflower and chrysanthemum orders.

Grow Up Brightly

Everywhere in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea one can easily notice a nursery or kindergarten, because, without exception, a board inscribed with the words, "We Are Happy", is N hanging on the facade above its front N door. This is suggestive of the happiness of the Korean children.

I could experience the truth of their happiness at Jongbaek Kindergarten No. 2 on Thongil Street, Pyongyang, I visited not long ago.

At first sight the kindergarten was to my liking. It consists of a three-story silver-white building and a broad front playground fully furnished with various amusement facilities and gymnastic apparatuses.

Its head O Chol Ok guided me, saying, "Our kindergarten is frequented by foreign guests. They are unanimous in enviously expressing admiration over the fact that our children are growing happily and brightly without any worry. Whenever we hear them say so, we feel more keenly the pride in our career.

She took me directly to the room of higher class No. 5. Although it was not long after they began the early course of universal 11-year compulsory education, the children in this class already learned by heart a lot of words and wrote remarkably well.

Teacher Kim Un Sil in charge of this class told me that a child could already read fluently the Korean Ianguage textbook for the first graders of primary school.

I continued to look round every classroom and the wading pool. They were all arranged well enough to be effective in educating the children and strengthening their bodies.

I dropped in at the room for keeping teaching aids as well. Visible there were hundreds of teaching aids including those for teaching the Korean language, counting, public morality, singing and dancing, etc. All of them were well designed to be helpful to the children's intellectual development.

One of them for teaching the four seasons in Korea won an invention certificate at a national exhibition of teaching aids for its freshness in form and content.

When it was time for the children to build up their bodies they went out to the playground where they joyfully and boisterously engrossed themselves in strengthening their bodies by making use of exercise bars, super chairs, a slide, a synthetic exercise frame, etc.

I also stopped in at the room where the children were playing with toys designed to promote the intellectual development of the children. Inside I felt as if I were in a village of happiness from a fable: all the walls were covered with pictures of different animals and plants. I satisfactorily watched the children of the lower class playing with various toys so as to try to enhance their power of thinking, observation, imagination and concentration. Some children were putting together plastic-made pieces of various forms, including circle, triangle and quadrangle, to turn them into a house, a car, and the like and then disassembled them very skillfully and rapidly.

Teacher Kim Wol Son proudly said that the room had thousands of toys of 200 kinds provided by the state.

Finally I entered the music room where I found a teacher drilling some children in the *kaya gum* quartet. Their skill was awfully high.

O told me that their *kayagum* solo and *kaya gum* quartet twice won the first prize at the Pyongyang children' s art festival held every year on the occasion of Kim Jong IL's birthday (February 16).

Looking at the bright looks of the children I wished heartily, "You lovable children, grow up more brightly to become the pillars of future Korea."

Song Thae Jun

A music lesson.

Enjoying play time.

A mother tongue lesson.

A teaching workshop.

Korean Stamps Issued

Recently the Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications issued stamps of various kinds that deal with men's national costumes worn in the period of the Ri dynasty (1392-1910)—wedding garment, gala dress, clothes for seasonal wear, etc. ❑

Natural Monument

Okryu Weeping Willow

At the entrance to the Okryu Bridge in Central District, Pyongyang, there is a willow drawing the attention of the passers-by.

It is the Okryu weeping willow which was designated by the state as precious natural product No.2. It is 19 metres in height, 4.36 metres round at the bottom, 4.34 metres round in the middle and 25.5 metres across in the crown.

At a height of 1.6 metres, two boughs branch off, putting out many twigs hanging slightly downward. It blooms in April. Its flower is oval and 1 to 2 cm long and its flower stems are all covered with downy hair.

It is the biggest of its kind and is of great academic value.

It adds charm to the surrounding scenery of the Taedong riverside along with the Okryu Bridge. ❑

Inventions as Strong Impetus to Development of National Economy; Its Prospect

-An Interview With O Hui Song, Viee-Direetor of the Bureau of Inven ntions-

***Korea Today* reporter:**

Today I've seen with great interest your bureau's store of scientific and technological inventions.

O: **Hui** Song: Really the humankind's scientific and technological inventions have now realized many of the old fancies, and still, made marvellous changes which had been beyond the human imagination.

As far as our country is concerned, our scientists, technicians and workers have strenuously pushed ahead with the development of science and technology by their own creative wisdom.

Reporter: I hear a lot of inventions and technical innovations have been made this year.

O:That's true. Many of them have already been introduced into production at factories and enterprises across the country, helping the overall progress of the national economy to a great extent.

Reporter: It's kind of a proof that your bureau is performing your mission very well, I suppose. This is a national organ that is committed not only to deliberation, registration and management of all inventions and programmes but also to stimulation of invention.

O:I hope so, still I believe it's essentially thanks to the people's high resolution to do their bit in the planned building of an economic power that will commensurate with the 21st century. Another important thing, I'm sure, is the inventions system which guarantees the practical payoff of the inventions and innovation proposals.

Reporter: Would you mind being more concrete?

O:You know, our country pursued the co-existence of the invention and the patent system. The point is the invention formula, which is distinctively different from the patent right that comes from technical monopoly. The invention formula provides the inventor with the diploma and social benefits—political and moral citation and material privilege. And the right to the use of the invention is invested to the state. The state collects inventions and innovation proposals from the people and helps a nationwide application so that they may pay for the development of the national economy.

Reporter: The choice of the patent right and the invention formula is in the hand of the maker, isn't it?

O:Right. Many apply for the invention formula. This is perhaps because they are aware that in our society the invention formula is more profitable to the state interest as a whole.

Reporter: The joint editorial of this year put stress on the need for technical refashioning of the overall national economy. Your organ has a lot to do in this respect, I think.

O: Our bureau has been working its hardest since early this year to help make inventions. Each province and important sectors of the national economy organize prize contests for the purpose. Assessment and registration of the proposed inventions and their application are done simultaneously. The pace-setters in invention making are the Pyongyang Thermal Power Complex in the power branch, the Chonsong Youth Colliery in the coal mining, the Chollima Steel Complex in the metallurgy, and the Kim Jong Thae Electric Locomotive Works in the rail transport.

My bureau is also carrying on the publication work. "Invention Application Bulletin," "Invention Bulletin", "Programme Information", "Know-how Information" and other publications help the people to invent significant and advanced things uninterruptedly.

Scientific and technological updates will further promote the invention drive.

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rhythm under the guidance of a competent teacher.

He was only nine years old when he won the gold medal at the national art festival of young boys and girls by playing a *janggo* solo. And he was placed first in the national instrumental solo of the national vocal and instrumental solocontest held last year. He went abroad several times to give performance as a member of the Pyongyang Students and Children's Art Troupe.

His performance caused great sensations among foreigners.

To the people who are envious of his son, Kim Yong Gun said:

"We parents made not so much effort for my son. It is our grateful motherland and our great Workers' Party of Korea that have brought up my son and have put him forward.

"Our state has taken every possible measure for my son to study to the best of his ability at a splendid palace, valuing even the tiny sprout of his talent. This warm solicitude has made him famous."

Sungyang Private School in Kaesong

The Sungyang private school in Sonjuk-dong, Kaesong was established at the end of the Koryo dynasty. It was one of Korea's representative well-ordered private schools.

It was a private educational institution teaching Confucianism.

Confucians ran most of private schools in their lifetime and some were -operated by their pupils while rendering memorial services to their teachers.

This school was where Jong Mong Ju, a feudal official and famous Confucian at the close of the Koryo dynasty, lived.

The present buildings of the school were rebuilt in 1573.

This school was typical in the building distribution and structure of Koryo private schools.

The Koryo private local schools distributed educational buildings in front and shrines for memorial service in the rear. The Sungyang private school had its buildings standing symmetrically along the southwestern central

axis and was surrounded by an oblong plane high wall. It had outside marks requiring riders to get off horses and three gates.

Lodging houses for the pupils stood face to face on the right and left sides of the courtyard and lecture hall in front. The lecture hall was five *kan* in front and three *kan* in side and its middle part floored with boards, with hot-floored room built on its either side. Pupils received lectures in the hall. It had three stairways on steep slopes in the back of the lecture hall and a wall dividing the front and back of the school and linked with the stairways. All private schools had dividing border walls. The steeply sloping, long stairways linked with the wall characterize the structure of this private school. The small gates of the stairways were to go to the shrine.

The school has a legend concerning its building style and Jong Mong Ju and has been well known to Koreans.

JUNE 25, of 51 years ago was Sunday. The Korean people who were planning at their homes to spend their holiday merrily and beneficially encountered with an unexpected thing.

It was that the US imperialists unleashed a war of aggression against our country that day.

The United States which had appeared as the ringleader of world imperialism in reliance on its economic and military strength and nuclear supremacy after the Second World War triggered off the Korean war (June 1950-July 1953), dreaming of demonstrating its "might" and realizing its ambition for world domination by dint of force.

It was only five years after our country was liberated from Japanese colonial rule.

The US hurled into the Korean front a huge armed force, numbering more than two million altogether, including one third of its ground forces, one fifth of its air forces, the greater part of its Pacific fleet plus troops of 15 of its satellite countries and the south Korean and Japanese troops as well as an enormous amount of up-to-date combat and technical materials.

Convinced of its long war history and its numerical and technical superiority, the US calculated that it would be able to occupy the northern half of Korea at one stroke.

The Korean war between the US-led imperialist allied forces and newborn Korea was a military showdown beyond the bound of a common sense.

Many people of the world. expressed grave apprehension as to whether our young Republic would be able to hold its own in this showdown.

But a miracle quite beyond credibility occurred, astonishing international society. The war ended in the victory of the Korean people. The US suffered an ignominious defeat for the first time in its history of aggression of more than 200 years.

Pyongyang Answers

Dwelling on this, the US magazine, *US News and World Report,* wrote that the loss US suffered in the Korean war was more than twice the losses the Americans had suffered in five big wars, that is, the War of Independence, the war in 1812, the Mexican War, the US-Spain War and the Philippine War."

At that time the US lost 405,000 men, wounded or captured, 12,200 aircraft, thousands of tanks and armoured cars, and thousands of guns of different calibres, hundreds of naval vessels and an enormous amount of military equipment.

The loss of manpower and war materials of the US in the three-year-long Korean war was nearly 2.3 times greater than that it had suffered in the four years of the Pacific war during the Second World War.

But the greater loss than this was that the war in Korea utterly shattered the myth of the "mightiness" of the US.

The then US defence secretary Marshall confessed, "The myth was exploded to atoms, and it became clear to everyone that the United States was not so strong as others had thought her to be."

Homicidal general MacArthur, who was sacked from the posts of US Far East commander and UN Forces commander, taking the blame for the US defeat in the war, said that the Korean war was a clear and doubtless failure and that at no time following its founding had the prestige of the US been hurt so seriously in the whole world.

Nearly 50 years have elapsed since the Korean war.

However, the Korean people clearly remember how much blood their parents and brothers and sisters shed and how much wealth of the country was reduced to ashes.

Though nearly half a century has passed, everywhere in this land can we still find the people who are swearing revenge, picturing in their minds the pale, twisted faces of their mothers who were shot to death by the enemies' machine-gun bullets and their dear youngsters who died with their toys in their bosoms.

The US imperialists showered 428,000 bombs on Pyongyang city on over 1,400 occasions. Through this fact alone, one can imagine the degree of their brutality and atrocity.

Even after they had sustained an ignominious defeat in the Korean war the US left no stone unturned to destroy the Korean socialist system.

With the Pyongyang meeting of the two leaders of the north and the south of Korea and the publication of the North-South Joint Declaration last year as a momentum, the north-south relations are turning from the relations of antagonism and confrontation to those of cooperation and reconciliation.

Expressing support and welcome to the endeavours to solve Korea's reunification issue independently and by concerted efforts of the Korean nation, its masters, the whole Korean nation and international society are calling upon the US to take

their hands of aggression and intervention off Korea.

Nevertheless, the US is showing a defiant attitude to this trend.

It is manoeuvring to suffocate north Korea by sheer strength. On the other hand, it is reinforcing its offensive weapons on a large scale in the vicinity of the Korean peninsula.

The US navy is planning to deploy three offensive submarines in Guam. It is a well-known fact that tens of air-to-ground cruise missiles have been moved and deployed there.

Touching upon this fact, the Voice of America said that the recent measure was another important arms deployment. In connection with the deployment of the offensive submarines in Guam, a spokesman for the US navy said that this would enable the US troops to get the better of the enemy in taking emergent countermeasure and engaging in battle in case of contingency.

What is more serious is that the US navy has newly set up the minesweeping detachment headquarters for commanding the minesweepers based in Sasebo, Nagasaki Prefecture.

The Sasebo base is a US base for aggression where is deployed a fleet charged with the mission of promptly transporting Okinawa-based US marines and other US combat forces in the event of an emergency on the Korean peninsula and where this fleet forms an amphibious fleet with US minesweepers there.

This base is adjacent to the Korean peninsula. The setting up of headquarters there is aimed at establishing a system of giving constant assistance to the minesweepers in this base. In addition, it is charged with the mission of conducting joint operations with the Japanese Maritime Self-Defence Force as well as with the US troops in Japan.

The establishment of minesweeping detachment head-

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Greeting World Environment Day

On the occasion of World Environment Day, Korea Today staff reporter Ki Yong Sam interviewed Kwak So Chang, vice-chief of the science department of the Environmental Protection Research Institute under the Ministry of Land and Environment Preservation.

Reporter: June 5 is World Environment Day. Greeting this day, I have come here to have a talk with you, a senior environmentalist, about the environmental problem.

Today the environmental problem is exciting the grave apprehension and considerable concern of international society as a matter of urgent necessity, I think. How do you think of it?

Kwak: You're right. It is said that environmental disruption is more disasterous than an atomic bomb. Therefore, environmental protection is currently raised as a serious question.

As a recent newspaper account pointed out, pollution causes enormous damage to the earth every day. Nearly 70 percent of urban population inhale polluted air worldwide. For this reason, 800 people die a day. In addition, 15,000 suffer from various diseases a day as they use polluted water for their drinking water, most of them are children.

The carbon dioxide emitted to the air a day amounts to 56 million tons and fluorocarbon chloride 1,500 tons. They are the main substances which make holes in the ozone layer and bring about the "greenhouse effect". On account of this 55,000 hectares of forests are destroyed and 161 square kilometers of land become unusable a day. In reflection of this trend of the times, World Environment Day was instituted and the undertaking for protecting environment is currently being promoted actively.

Reporter: I want to know about meetings held and measures taken internationally and the exchanges now under way between the nations in this connection.

Kwak: Up until the 1960s the environmental disruption of the earth was not so serious. But the rapid increase in the number of up-to-date industrial factories and particularly the spread of multinational corporations of the imperialists pursuing their own interest alone ever since the 1970s gave rise to a marked increase in the amount of the industrial wastes worldwide and these waste matters discharged without due consideration and restriction contaminated air and water and devastated forests seriously.

According to data now available, the rubbish produced worldwide is annually increasing at the speed of 8.42 per cent on average. If this is left intact, the density of the rubbish of the world will reach 812 tons per one square kilometer in 2010. This cannot be overlooked indeed.

That is why many nations are paying deep attention to the matter of environmental protection, regarding it as a common problem of humankind, and are striving to strengthen international cooperation under the slogan "Let us regain the blue earth, the earth which cannot be bartered for anything".

A UN population environment meeting took place in Stockholm, Sweden, in 1972 with the participation of delegates from 110 countries. It was the first biggest international meeting held in connection with the environmental problem. It adopted a resolution to commemorate June 5 as World Environment Day every year and this was decided at the 27th Session of the UN General Assembly held the same year.

In 1992 a UN meeting on environment and development, which was called the earth summit, took place with large attendance in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

Taking part in it were delegations and delegates from more than 170 nations, delegates from 78 inter-governmental or UN organizations. The meeting had a serious discussion on the environment issue and adopted the Rio declaration and protocol 21, which were comprehensive action programmes related to this issue.

Last November an international meeting took place in the Netherlands to discuss the matter of preventing the greenhouse effect of the earth causing abnormal weather with the participation of delegates from more than 180 countries.

In this way efforts are being made under global concern to prevent environmental disruption and exchanges are currently under way on a large scale between the nations, sponsored by the UNEP. Cooperation is being promoted in various fields. They include the prevention of atmospheric contamination, the reduction of factors of ecological environmental disruption, the guarantee of diversity of living organisms and the prevention of sea contamination.

Reporter: Our country is also attaching importance to this issue, I think. Would you tell me about this in detail?

Kwak: Maybe you're read the article "Beautiful landscape and fine culture", a travel note by a reporter from the Chinese newspaper *Renmin Ribao,* and the article "Korea, a country of morning calm", a travel note written by staff reporters' group from the Russian newspaper *Patriot.* The writers of these articles and many other foreign visitors to Pyongyang were unanimous in saying that air is fresh and river water is clear and that Pyongyang is a city surrounded by parks. Air contamination in our country is not so serious yet.

Let me cite the index on the quality of water of the River Taedong flowing through the city of Pyongyang as an example. Its COD (chemical oxygen demand) is below three and its ROD (biochemical oxygen demand) is below four. This means that these do not exceed the permissible limit.

From the early period of nation-building after liberation from Japanese colonial rule (August 1945), our country has prevented the concentration of industrial factories and enterprises on towns and has distributed them dispersively across the country, attaching importance to environment protection. In case the construction of a factory is detrimental to the sound preservation of ecological environment, it has strictly been restricted no matter how profitable it may be. As you know, when the matter of opening up a gold mine in Mt. Myohyang was put forward, the state prevented it, for the reason that the beautiful scenery of Mt. Myohyang, one of Korea's celebrated mountains, would be spoiled and the water of the upper reaches of the River Chongchon be contaminated and sweetfish and other marine resources be reduced.

There are too many examples to mention.

The state sees to it that all the factories are furnished with dust collection facilities and sewage purifiers and their normal operation is as ever thoroughly supervised and controlled.

In recent years, too, the state is paying particular attention to environment protection. The former state committee for environment preservation was renamed the Ministry of Land and Environment Preservation in 1995. A management bureau for land and environment preservation was set up in each province and a land and environment department in each county. As a result a well-planned administrative system has been established.

In addition, the laws on environment protection, land and forest were adopted and the detailed regulations for the application of these laws and rules laid down with the result that a thoroughgoing legal foundation was built up.

At the same time, the state ensures that the whole country and all the people turn out in the undertaking for environment protection by setting it out as a social problem and enlightening the popular masses.

In the future the work of land and environmental protection will be further intensified in our country.

Reporter: Thank you.

(Continued from page 34)

quarters in Sasebo is designed to cope with the event of an emergency on the Korean peninsula. This is proved by the fact that the headquarters took part in the US-Japan special minesweeping rehearsal held in February this year.

The minesweeping detachment headquarters was set up in serious Sasebo timing with the announcement of the US resolution on placing offensive submarines in Guam. This cannot but be a dangerous north-targeted military move.

Meanwhile, the US is conducting espionage acts against our Republic more frequently from the outset of the new century.

The Korean people watched carefully the US attitude towards Korea after the appearance of the Bush Administration in the US.

The Bush Administration is taking a provocative attitude towards our Republic. They are now on the rampage to unleash another war against our Republic.

At the same time, it is attaching a label of "terrorist supporting country" to our Republic while croaking about the fictitious "threat" of our Republic and its "human rights issue and dancing to the tune of Japan's absurd clamour of "kidnap" of Japanese by our Republic.

All this shows that the US does not want to see the DPRK-US relations improved and their hostile policy against the DPRK and their machinations to isolate and stifle it remain unchanged.

It is our people's consistent principle and mode of action to answer sincerity with sincerity and challenge with hard-line attitude.

If the US does not change its attitude, the answer they can expect of the Koreans is only one:

The last Korean war brought about the beginning of the downhill turn for the US imperialists. If another Korean war breaks out, it will lead to their own ruin.

Warm Human Love

"IN our country many stories of laudabledeeds are told and it is said that many people are reborn. I write this letter at the thought of human love working miracles, looking at my seven-year-old daughter who was reborn as a flower of happiness in 170 days and walks with a swaggering gait as she was born on this land where love and devotion are the everyday life of people..."

This is a passage of a recent letter to the editorial board of *Korea Today* from Kim Chun Suk, a teacher at the Sosin Senior Middle School in Ryokpho District, Pyongyang, who is the mother of girl Jo Jin Hyang. The story goes: In mid-July last year a six-year-old girl was carried to the hospital of Pyongyang University of Medicine. The lower half of her body showed the symptom of paralysis from an unknown reason. She was in delirious fever and spasm and her worsening conditions disfigured her, which pained doctors.

The diagnosis that the lower half of her body would be paralyzed even if she narrowly escaped death worried medical workers.

Having lost the last ray of hope, her mother's heart broke at the thought that her daughter's happy life lasted for at most six years. But her mother could not confidently believe that the medical workers' warm human love and devotion would work a miracle.

Immediate measures were taken at a doctors' emergency meeting and tense operations continued.

The doctor in her charge and other medical workers did not leave her bedside for scores of days.

She underwent ten and more operations and shed much blood and swooned many times. Medical workers readily donated their blood to her and got many good medicines for her.

Doctors' families and people from different parts visited the patient like her parents every day.

Thanks to such sincerity and devotion she recovered her consciousness. But her case was diagnosed as osteomyelitis of her thigh.

The medical workers began to cure it to prevent her from being crippled. They visited other hospitals to find effective methods of treatment and operations through consultations with doctors there.

After her conditions took a favourable turn they went a long way to get her palatable foods and good medicines, which moved her parents to tears.

Doctors had dozens of serious consultations and continued every moving, sincere treatment. At their sight her parents thought that they should have nothing to regret even if she would not be able to walk.

Four months after she entered the hospital a miracle was wrought. She stood up leaning on the wall and several days later she began to walk. One hundred and seventy days after she walked on her own feet without a stick to the amazement of people. Tears stole down her pink cheeks and her parents and medical workers shed tears of joy.

Her mother lifted up her daughter walking step by step

Little Jin Hyang has recovered her health thanks to doctors' sincere treatment.

singing the song "We Are the Happiest" and knelt down before the picture of leader Kim Jong Il in the central hall of the hospital and shed tears of gratitude.

Another flower came into full bloom under the warm sunshine of love. Her letter makes the DPRK overfull of human love dearer to people.

Reading her letter, we would like to say on behalf of her and all other people of this country:

"People born on this land are really beautiful and happy."

National Musical Heritage- Songs Created in Enlightenment Period

The songs created in the period of enlightenment have a deserved value in the national cultural heritage of the Korean people.

The art of creating this sort of songs came into existence and developed at the time when the Korean people's anti-Japanese patriotic ideas against Japanese colonial rule were growing higher day by day ever since the last period of the feudal age. Songs of this kind were widely created and disseminated until the mid

-1940s, leaving indelible traces in the emotional life of our people.

In our country the undertaking for unearthing and pigeonholing national musical heritage was propelled forward vigorously. As a result, songs created in the enlightenment period came to find their worth anew as national treasure and heritage.

These songs are of various forms – songs for enlightenment, children's songs, lyric songs, new folk songs, popular songs, etc.

Songs for enlightenment appeared under the influence of the patriotic cultural enlightenment movement in Korea in the period between the close of the 19th century and the beginning of the 20th century, and they went by the name of *changga* as well.

Their essential feature lies in the fact that they are Korea's first songs of western music style with enlightenment contents.

Among them is the 'Song of the Children's Mind" which calls for unity for the country's independence. They are mostly related to the life of youth and students who are burning with the desire for learning, such as the "Song of Students," the "Song of Giving Encouragement to Learning", the "Song of Taking Exercise" and the "Song of Rooters".

As for children's songs, activities for their creation were conducted briskly by conscientious musicians in the period between the close of the 1920s and the beginning of the 1930s. This is because firstly, the education of children in the patriotic ideas stood out as an important social problem related to the country's future destiny under Japanese colonial rule and secondly, the progressive musicians intended to infuse the patriotic ideological feelings into the minds of people through children's songs to which the Japanese imperialists directed less attention.

That is why the "Home Village in Spring", "Dear Far-off Southern Land" and many other children's songs were created and came to be sung widely not only among the children but also among the grown-ups.

Speaking of new folk songs, they took over the national melody even in the corrupt society under Japanese colonial rule and made a contribution to making the people entertain patriotic sentiments, even if they were dedicated to the singing of natural scenery.

As for popular songs, they were widely sung among the Korean people before Korea's liberation.

Among the sound popular songs are those which are bright, mellifluous and full of optimistic emotion and those which are lively and full of hope and buoyant sentiment. "Falling Blossoms and Running Water" and "Brier" can be cited as apt instances.

In our country a lot of effort is put into critically taking over and carrying forward those popular songs which are relatively sound and realistic both in content and emotion in a way suited to the aesthetic sense of our era while thoroughly rejecting those which are decadent and reactionary.

Songs created in the years of enlightenment had historical and ideological limitations on account of the creators' immaturity in the outlook on the world. However, these songs take their share in national musical heritage, as they relatively truthfully reflected the sentiments of life of the Korean people groaning under the tyranny of Japanese imperialism and their simple aspiration for the future.

Robbery of Drince Namyongun's Tomb

IN 1868 the US aggressors concocted an extremely shameless and brigandish plot to dig the tomb of Prince Namyongun, the father of Regent Taewongun Ri Ha Ung, the virtual ruler of Korea at that time, and stealthily take out the remains of the deceased in an attempt to coerce the Korean feudal government into concluding an unequal treaty with them by using them as a lure and, at the same time, to loot the treasures in it.

This plot was pushed forward under the direction of George Seward, the then US consul general in Shanghai, China, upon the directive of the US government.

Jenkins, the ex-interpreter of the US consulate general in Shanghai, was appointed the head of the band of grave robbers consisting of more than 300 rogues well experienced in piracy.

As aiready planned, the band infiltrated into Asan Bay in the south of the Korean west coast.

Previously, on April 8, 1868, these robbers, aboard the 680-ton capacity pirate ship "China", with a small motorboat "Crete" attatched, left Shanghai, and, on the way, stopped at Nagasaki, Japan to replenish fuel and drinking water before resuming their voyage.

Eight days later they stole into the bay in Chungchong Province.

On the 18th of that month they reached the Haengnam Island in Hongju County of that province and robbed the inhabitants of two fishing boats and more, than 100 members of the band, on board the motorboat and the two fishing boats separately went up the Sapgyo Stream and landed on Kumanpho in Toksan County.

Then they fully armed and disguised themselves as soldiers of Czarist Russia and rushed directly into the government office there to take weapons away from the guards and destroy the office building.

It was already getting dark and they immediately stole into the Kayadong in that county, their destination, and set about digging the tomb.

Although they had planned to finish the robbery under cover of darkness and get away before dawn, they encountered with the resistance of the residents who, knowing of the fact, all turned out, bringing sickles and hoes with them, to frustrate their atrocity.

Flurried by this, they ran away without realizing their brigandish design.

They, however, didn't give up their brazen ambition. On April 21 they turned up on the sea off Yongjong Islet at the entrance to the Kanghwa Straits in Kyonggi Province and sent the Korean feudal government a threatening letter to force it into concluding an unequal treaty with them, and on the 25th some of the gangsters landed on the islet to threaten the inhabitants and even tried to occupy the islet itself.

Led by the garrison commander, Sin Hyo Chol more than a hundred Korean guards defending the islet bravely fought against the invaders, killing some of them, and finally drove them out.

The following day the US pirates had to flee to Shanghai.

Then the US faced the pressure of world public opinion against their atrocity, and on May 18 that year they put Jenkins and his party on trial at the court of the consulate in Shanghai, which they forged only in an attempt to smooth down world public opinion. The court thus declared the robbers not guilty under the pretext of insufficient evidence.

The tomb robbery, however, revealed once again the brigandish and brutal nature of the US aggressors and caused the Korean people to bear fiercer hatred towards and heighten vigilance against them.

Mt. Myohyang (1)

Mt. Myohyang is one of the celebrated mountains in Korea. The old name of Myohyang comes from the wonders and fragrance of the mountain.

Measuring 128 kms in circumference and 28 kms in all directions, the mountain is a complex of multifarious, magnificent scenic wonders. With the 1909-metre-high Piro-bong as the main, peaks like Chilsong, Wonman and Hyangno — these are over 1,500 metres high each— Jmgwi and Sokka—both are over 1 300 metres each in height— soar like sawteeth. Fantastic cliffs weathered by the rain and the wind for a long time and numerous waterfalls flying down precipitous rocks under floating fogs present a wonderful, grandiose harmony.

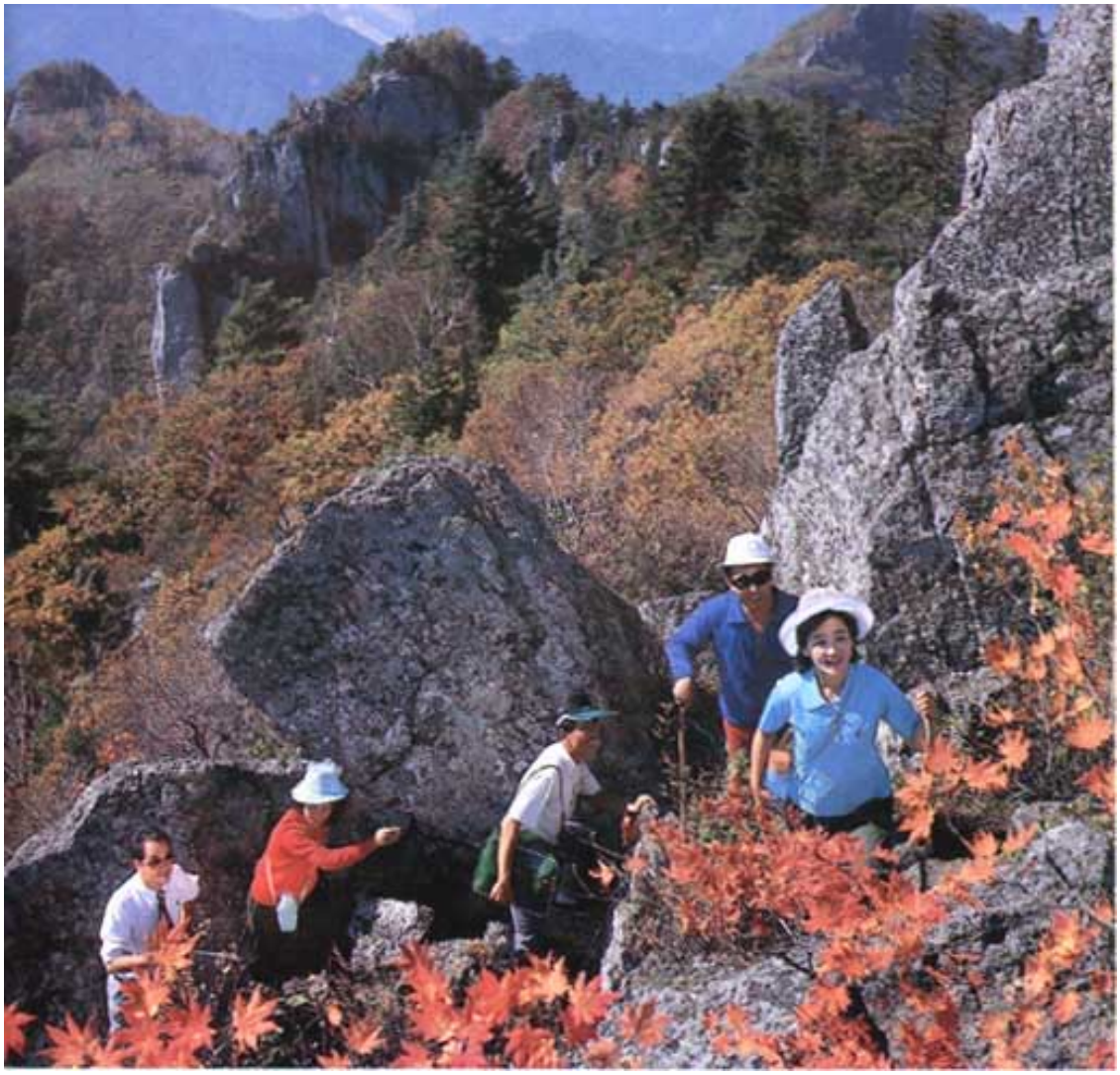
Light pink flowers bloom in spring, royal azaleas produce a beautiful scenery on mountain slopes in early summer. In mid-summer green pines, zelkovas and other broad-leaved trees throw cooling shades and valuable flowers like magnolias give off sweet smell. Autumn makes the valleys burning red.

The fauna and fiora are also diverse and rich. More than 400 species of grasses and 200 species of trees are found there; many kinds of birds including the broad-billed roller which is preserved as a natural treasure, live in the mountain. Antelopes, musk deer, bears and other wild beasts are also seen.

In Mt. Myohyang is the International Friendship Exhibition which has a store of gifts to President Kim Ii Sung and leader Kim Jong Ii from heads of state and government, revolutionary organizations, social activists, statesmen and people from different strata.

There are many cultural relics and remains that tell the time-honoured history and brilliant culture of Korea; the Taeung Hall, the nine-storey and 13-storey pagodas at the Pohyon Temple are famous historic relics. The Taeung Hall is associated with the brave patriotic struggle of Saint Sosan who fought against the Japanese invaders as commander of volunteers in the 1592-1598 Imjin Patriotic War.

Rest homes, children's camps and many other services are well-arranged as well as the tourist resorts, so the mountain draws streams of visitors.



Climbing up the mountain.

A general view of the Children's Union Camp in the mountain

A view of the International Friendship Exhibition.

Some of the gifts to leader Kim Jong Ii from abroad.

The octagonal 13-storeyed pagoda at the PohyonTemple.

A pavilion in the mountain.

Chief Coach of Female Judo

The Pyongyang City Sports Team boasts of the chief coach of female judo, Ri Song Chol, 42, a solidly built man of medium stature. He was born into an ordinary worker's family in Pyongyang, and he is one of the brother-and-sister threesome.

He has worked both as an athlete and a coach for 26 years.

It was in Juche 64(1975) when he was a fifth grader of the senior middle school that he began to learn judo. Previously he would be singled out as a goal keeper of the football team at the then district sports club, because of his intrepidity and good physical condition.

It was his elder brother who made him change from footballer to judoka all of a sudden.

At that time his dependable brother, five years older than he, was a promising wrestler at the sports team and is now working as a section chief of the same team. He advised Song Chol to try heavyweight games, taking into consideration his physical conditions, including his burly and strong joints. The latter felt grateful to his advice: In fact he had admired that manly sport of his elder brother. So he decided to try judo that can be said to be similar to wrestling.

Since then he acted as a judoist for more than ten years. His stubborn training enabled him to exalt the honour of the country by carrying off medals at many international contests as well as at domestic ones.

His talent and name began to enjoy greater popularity since he started his career as a coach.

His job as an athlete lasted till the year of Juche 75(1986), and the state allowed him to attend the two-year-long special course of the faculty of physical culture at Kim Hyong Jik University of Education.

After finishing the course he was again posted to the same sports team, where he worked at the department of the science of physical culture for a year, and in Juche 79(1990) switched to the present job.

The state let me get education free of charge. I will devote myself to the work of bringing up good athletes who will bring glory to the country, he swore within himself. Then he devoted his wisdom and energy entirely to their training.

"Whenever he roughly urged us to carry out the technical task, I took a dislike to him, and soon I came to understand with gratitude that he did so only for our sakes."

"You're right. I rather rebuked myself as I failed to meet the demand which he set upon us, despite he carefully and wisely taught us techniques through scrupulous application of them to suit the speciality of each of us."

"Our coach is the best. Handsome and warmhearted, and yet exacting in his demand in training us."

All this is what the girl trainees under his charge whispered among themselves.

He has so far brought up world-famous judoists including People's Athlete Kye Sun Hui, and Merited Athletes Cha Hyon Hyang, Ri Myong Hwa, and Ji Kyong Sun.

Several years ago he concurrently held the post of chief coach for female judo at the national sports team. In the course of this he accompanied his female judoists to the 10th Asian Women's Judo Championships held in China, the following round of the same championships held in Osaka, Japan, and the 27th Olympic Games held in Sydney, Australia last year, where his trainees won gold, silver and bronze medals under his guidance.

This earned him the title of Merited Athlete two years ago.

His harmonious family lives in Kwangbok-dong No. 2 in Mangyongdae District, Pyongyang. It consists of his hale parents in eighties and seventies, his affectionate wife working at one of the public catering establishments on Changgwang Street, and his beloved daughter, a pupil of the senior middle school.

The authoritative chief coach is now afire with the deterniination to bring up a greater number of fresh judoists in the future.

Ri Song Chol trains his girls hard.

MEN OF STRONG FAITH

Taking the True Meaning of Motherland to Heart

SOMETIMES I give myself up to some thought, unable to calm down my excitement while reading a book in a cosy room, and sometimes I am wrapped in solemn feelings all of a sudden while walking along a road.

What on earth makes me think so deeply?

It is because the true meaning of the word "motherland" flashes across my mind over again.

I spent nearly half of my life, that is, 35 years, in prison in south Korea and was chilled to the bone spending many years in the tundra of darkness. But the loving care of my motherland warmed me up and even brought back my youthful days gone by hopelessly. Indeed, motherland is very precious to me.

I hail from Hadong in South Kyongsang Province, bordering on South Jolla Province, the southernmost tip of Korea.

It was there that I had learned the "Song of General Kim IL Sung" after Korea's liberation.

Bright traces of blood on the
crags of Jangbaek still gleam,
Still the Amnok carries along
signs of blood in its stream. Still
do those hallowed traces
shine resplendently
Over Korea ever flourishing
and free.
So dear to all our hearts is
our General's glorious name,
Our own beloved Kim IL Sung
of undying fame.

As all the south Koreans did, so I felt conspicuous affection to this song.

I remember it was when I was 10 years old that I first heard the august name of President Kim IL Sung atthe night school in my village.

At that time, teacher Choe in his fifties taught us and he told many stories about the President. Every story left a deep impression upon us all present there.

He said in the following vein:

Now in the vast Manchurian plains General Kim Ii Sung is mowing down Japs like grass under a mower by organizing an army. It cannot but be fortunate for our Korean nation in great misery that such a hero has appeared.

At that time I was too young to fully understand what the teacher had said. However, it made my little heart swell. It was too natural for me to have felt so, because I had the following bitter experience around that time.

One day my mother bought a carp as big as the forearm and told me to take it to the landlord's. The carp was a specialty at Hadong and ordinary people could not even think the idea of eating it. She did not serve it to my grandfather and father but made me take it to the landlord's. I told my mother that her doing was hard to understand. Upon hearing this, she pleaded with me, saying: "We cannot but bribe the landlord in order to cultivate 800 *phyong* of tenant farmland next year, too. Be patient and take it to him."

I thought over and over again why this unfairness existed in this world. It was at that juncture that I heard about General Kim Ii Sung, and this made my mind full of reverence for him.

It was not confined to the night school alone that nurtured my reverence for him.

For the last nine months of Japanese rule, I was on Jeju Island, drafted for military service. What impressed me profoundly at that time, too, was the fact that, though the island was surrounded with the raging wild sea and was on the southernmost tip of Korea, Mt. Paektu was attracting public attention. Furthermore, the stories about the President were widely spreading even among the Japanese soldiers. This excited me greatly.

In these circwnstances I greeted the liberation of Korea and went to my hometown at a run. But the southern part of Korea was out of reach of the rays of national liberation, owing to the US imperialists' occupation. As soon as I realized this fact, I participated in the people's resistance struggle and the save-the-nation struggle in opposition to harsh repression.

The first song I had learned in the course of such struggle was the "Song of General Kim IL Sung".

When singing this song while listening to the news on the enforcement of the agrarian and other democratic reforms in the northern part of Korea, my heart overflowed with strong yearning for him.

Singing this song, I surmounted all harsh trials behind the bars.

I think that of all sore trials we went through, the one we faced in the 1990s was the most unbearable. East European socialist countries collapsed in the face of the

Leaving Aged Mother Behind

I am a person who has been taken into the embrace of the socialist homeland for which I yearned so ardently awake or asleep after 32-year-long painful prison life. However, to my bitter regret, I failed to come over to the north together with my 94-year-old mother who had kept supplying me with clothes and food from outside the prison for those long years. Following me as far as a spot near Panmunjom and waving goodbye toward me, she encouraged me to work devotedly for reunifying the country. How can I forget her!

Some people may say that how I could start for the north, leaving behind the mother who worried herself for her son for so many years. They are mistaken. One should sometimes put up with such a parting on the way to the country's reunification.

I would like to say that the separation from my mother was charged with happiness. It was because the place I headed forwas where a genuine guarantee was provided for happy living and public peace reigned. I think she, for the first time in her life, would have set her mind at ease.

When I was in south Korea and even now when I am in the northern half of Korea, I was and am asked often how I could survive, putting up with all trials in the long prison life.

I should like to assert positively that the unshaken trust in the leader enabled us to overcome all difficulties and remain true to our faith.

What I want to emphasize here is that as man can maintain his life only when he takes meals, so he can remain faithful to his principle only when he constantly assimilates ideological pabulum.

I think that our readers will doubt if they hear that we prisoners worked hard at our studies even under difficult circumstances as having to spend long years in the prison where neither a pencil stub nor a sheet of paper was available and which was completely isolated from the outside world.

What we feared most was not torture, but our heads getting rusty. So we obtained the works of President Kim IL Sung and leader Kim Jong Ii by resorting to every conceivable means andread them with avidity. It was not once or twice that we shed tears after reading the President's reminiscences **"With the Century".**

In addition to individual study, we held commemorative meetings on red-letter days, that is, on April 15(the President's birthday), February 16 (Kim Jong IL's birthday), September 9 (the birthday of the DPRK) and October 10 (the birthday of the Workers' Party of Korea). We conveyed the reports for these meetings we had drawn up by means of making signs through knocking. Our prison life was by no means the stoppage of our movement but the continuation of our struggle. By so doing, we could maintain our political integrity as well as our bodies.

I am already 72, but my heart is swelling with youthful vigour under the loving care of my homeland. I am determined to dedicate this enthusiasm entirely to the struggle for reunification. Then my mother in south Korea will be glad and warmly embrace this son when we meet again on the day of reunion.

***Sin In* Yong,**
former unconverted
long-term prisoner

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counterrevolutionary offensives of the imperialists and reactionaries. Then President Kim IL Sung suddenly passed away. To make matters worse, our people had to start the "Arduous March".

However, these trials could never shake us.

I cannot forget even today that hearing the news on the demise of the President we went up Tobong Hill in Seoul and yearned after him looking towards the north. We wailed, but encouraged each other, calling the august name of leader Kim Jong IL.

We pricked upu r ears and hearing the news of on-the-spot guidance provided by leader Kim Jong IL, cultivated our strength and braced our confidence. In particular, when we heard from others that during his on-the-spot guidance to the mission at Panmunjom in November 1996, he had warmly said that the reunified country should be handed down to the younger generation without fail, we hugged each other and wept.

What I feel more keenly while trying to comprehend the true meaning of the word, motherland, is that back to my youthful days I, a 77-year-old man, am now living happily, taken into the embrace of my motherland and that the motherland is' the warm care of leader Kim Jong IL.

Hwang Yang Gap,
former unconverted
long-term prisoner

Three Charters of National Reunification-Banner for Realization of Reunification Cause

Reunifying the country is the unanimous aspiration and will of the entire Korean nation.

Ever since the division of the country, President Kim Ii Sung set out the country's reunification as the supreme task of our nation, invariably maintained the line of one Korea, the line of reunification, and wisely led the struggle for national reunification. In this process he put forward the three principles of national reunification, the plan of founding the Democratic Federal Republic of Koryo and the ten-point programme of the great unity of the whole nation. Thus he performed great ideological and theoretical exploits on the road to the country's reunification.

On August 4, Juche 86(1997) leader Kim Jong Ii made public his work, **Let Us Carry Out the Great Leader Comrade Kim II Sung's Instructions for National Reunification.** In this work he set the three principles of national reunification, the plan of establishing the DFRK and the ten-point programme of the great unity of the whole nation all of which had been put forward by President Kim IL Sung as the three charters of national reunification.

By so doing he provided the Korean people with the banner of reunification, the fighting programme which they should take hold of firmly in the whole course of the national reunification movement.

The three charters of national reunification are the great banner for the realization of the reunification cause which will bring about an epochal turn in reunifying Korea.

Leader Kim Jong IL said:

"The three charters **of national reunification are, indeed, the banner of national reunification as well as the justest and most realistic fighting programme for reunifying the country independently and peacefully."**

The three principles of national reunification, the ten-point programme of the great unity of the whole nation and the plan of establishing the DFRK constitute the three charters of national reunification.

The three principles of national reunification –independence, peaceful reunification and great national unity – are the cornerstones for national reunification which manifested the fundamental standpoint and fundamental way of solving the problem of Korea's reunification by the efforts of the Korean nation and in keeping with its will and interests and are the starting point in solving Korea's reunification problem. These three principles are the great common programme of our nation which the north and south confirmed in their July 4 Joint Statement and proclaimed solemnly to the public at home and abroad.

The ten-point programme of the great unity of the whole nation is a political programme to strengthen the motive force of national reunification by achieving the unity of the entire Korean nation. This programme clearly shows the objective and the ideological basis of great national unity and its principles and methods in an all-round way.

The plan of founding the DFRK is a blueprint that shows the full picture of the state to be reunified and the method for its realization. It indicates the basic method of reunifying Korea most reasonably and smoothly on the basis of tolerating the ideas and social systems in the north and the south.

As mentioned above, the three charters systematize and elaborate the basic principles and methods of national reunification into an integral system. These charters are the guiding principles to be maintained and the great banner to be held fast to in accomplishing the country's reunification cause.

These charters are consistent with the spirit of national independence regarding national sovereignty and dignity as lifeblood and embody the noble love for the country and nation for reunifying Korea peacefully by achieving north-south reconciliation and the great unity of the whole nation.

Independence is the life and soul of a nation. Reunifying Korea is aimed at realizing the independence of the Korean nation. Therefore, the principles and ways and means of national reunification can be accepted by the Korean nation only when they are based on and embody the spirit of national independence.

The three principles of national reunification which are consistent with the principle of independence and the plan of establishing the DFRK which sets out the founding of a nation-wide reunified state as a fundamental issue of Korea's reunification and indicates the way of its perfect solution – both proceed from the spirit of national independence which regards the sovereignty and dignity of the nation as lifeblood. In particular, the ten-point programme of the great unity of the whole nation is the noble manifestation of the spirit of national independence and love for the nation. It sets the founding of an independent, peaceful and neutral unified state as the general goal for great national unity and love for the nation and the spirit of national independence as the basis of great national unity, and the promotion of co-existence, co-prosperity and common interests and the subordination of everything to the cause of national reunification as the principle of unity.

The three charters clarify the fairest and most reasonable and rational way of reunifying Korea at the earliest possible date in keeping with the realconditions in our country where different ideas and social systems exist in its north and south for a long time and in accordance with the entire nation's unanimous aspiration to reunification.

Because of these three charters the Korean people are now putting up a dynamic struggle for the country's reunification with the clear objective and direction and full of confidence and optimism and are developing the national reunification movement onto a higher stage with their concerted efforts.

Today the Korean nation's inclinations towards reunification have grown higher than ever before and the solidarity of the Koreans in the north and south of Korea and abroad has been strengthened and international ranks of supporters to these three charters are being expanded with every passing day. This is a patent proof of their correctness and vitality.

All the fellow countrymen are devoting themselves entirely to the realization of the three charters of national reunification, filled with confidence and optimism.

The prospects of reunification are bright.

Han Tong Chan

I Will Be a Link For "Reunification Bridge"

I crossed the demarcation line of Korea, because I can hardly remain an onlooker of its tragic division as everyone of our nation, and so I have much to consider and say.

There would be no sufferings more painful than national division in this world, in this planet, by which our beloved parents, husbands and wives and b rothers and sisters have been separated into two, north and south, for more than half a century, their mutual visits banned.

Praying of mere sympathy and preaching of consolation for the tragedy and sufferings caused by national division—Is this what we religioners should do?

No, this is not, I declare. Originally, our Buddhism takes pride in the traditions of "guardian Buddhism"—when our countrymen had to suffer misfortunes, invaded by foreign forces, we Buddhists rose up in arms and fought valiantly for the country. These patriotic traditions we boast of.

When our countrymen were groaning under the 40-year-long colonial rule of Japanese imperialists the religioners turned out as one in the sacred anti-Japanese struggle, steering the popular masses.

Today the patriotic and progressive religioners in south Korea are leading the masses in the van of the sacred struggle for reunification. But some imprudent religioners there held the 'great memorial service for the country" to incite the people to alienation and confrontation, contrary to the religious doctrine and thereby blasphemed the traditions of "guardian Buddhism", misleading Buddhists as if such a thing represents "guardian Buddhism".

In the final analysis, it is nothing but a false "guardian Buddhism", "treacherous Buddhism", benefitting the foreign forces' manoeuvrings for national division and confrontation.

The genuine "guardian Buddhism" today is to stand in the van of the struggle for national sovereignty and great national unity, I think.

During the Imjin Patriotic War (1592-1598) against Japanese invaders Saint Sosan and Samyongdang, former priests and paragons of "guardian Buddhism", became the commanders of the volunteer army, and mobilized all the monks of the eight provinces of the country, achieving the brilliant victory of the war.

If they were alive now, what would they do?

They will write a manifesto appealing "coalition with the north, independence and peaceful reunification" and arouse the masses to the road to national unity and independent reunification.

The Buddhists who are not following the sacred patriotic spirit of the two priests but inciting confrontation with fellow countrymen will be castigated severely by the people.

Let's become true "guardian Buddhists" through the praying, explanation, and practice for the "annihilation of foreign forces, and early achievement of peaceful reunification" so as to save 70 million Koreans undergoing the sufferings of national division—this is what I want to shout, I, a defector to the north, unable to remain indifferent to the tragic division of the country.

Nation precedes religion.

If nestles are destroyed, eggs are not safe. As is the case with it, so long as division and confrontation continue, another war may break out, then we religioners will not be safe.

If a nation is annihilated and land turns to debris, there needs no religion.

I want to call upon the Buddhists of south Korea and abroad and other religioners to become genuine believers leading the masses to reconciliation, unity and peaceful reunification.

I'm ready to be martyred to hasten the day when all the countrymen will live a blissful life on a reunified land of three thousandri, independent and peaceful, free from foreign forces, and am going to be a link of the "reunification bridge", as a guide of independence, peace and national unity, together with patriotic and progressive believers.

Jaam at the Phyohun Temple, Mt. Kumgang

(former priest, Haein Tern. pie, Mt. Kaya, south Korea)

Japanese Imperialists' Crime-In an Attempt to Obliterate Spoken and Written Korean Language

In the past Japan occupied Korea for more than 40 years and schemed to wipe out the national character of the Korean people.

Having seized Korea militarily, the Japanese imperialists enforced the policy of "turning Koreans into loyal Japanese subjects."

It was a national assimilation policy which was designed to impose upon the Korean people the principle of non-resistance and slavish submission to the Japanese emperor and his regime and reduce them to their slaves.

The Koreans have come to cherish great national pride and self-confidence in the course of creating 5,000-year-long history and national culture.

That is why they took up arms against the Japanese imperialists when the latter took Korea by force, thus waging the volunteers' struggle and shouted hurrah during the March First Popular Uprising.

The Japanese imperialists tried their hardest to distort and obliterate history and culture in an attempt to wipe out the national pride of the Korean people and implant national nihilism and flunkeyism into their minds.

Before anything else, they forged up the "historical necessity" of "turning Koreans into loyal Japanese subjects".

From the first days of their seizure of Korea, they unhesitatingly committed the forgery of history to invent "historical grounds" for national assimilation from both the academic and theoretical viewpoints. The typical example is the theory of "Japan and Korea are of the same ancestry" and "Japan and Korea are one." This assertion is that Korea and Japan are one, for they are of the same descent when examining them anthropologically.

From the latter half of the 1930s the Japanese occupiers said that the Korean nation had the same ancestor with the Japanese nation since olden times and is his descendant, by widely spreading the theory of "Japan and Korea are one" and "Japan and Korea are of the same ancestry", and emphasized that it was too natural that Koreans should turn into loyal Japanese subjects.

They trampled down the admirable culture and traditions of the Korean people.

In order to wipe out Korean national culture and its traditions, they introduced into Korea fin-de-siecle culture with a strong militaristic colouring.

What is typical in cultural infiltration after the 1930s in particular is that they introduced into Korea the *Bushido* spirit which was the spirit displayed by Japanese *samurai* and the religion *Shindo* which is consistent with superstitious belief, as well as such systems as "visiting shrines", "taking oath as loyal Japanese subjects," "offering silent prayer at noon" and "worshiping the royal palace from afar," and so on. The idea consistent in these is ultranationalism, an aggressive and reactionary idea. It propagandizes the superiority of the Yamato nation, saying that Japan has the emperor who is said to have come down historically and that it has inherited his lineage.

What was the most atrocious in the Japanese imperialists' machination for obliterating the national character of the Korean people was that they forced the Koreans to change their full names into Japanese ones.

The successive imperialists had enforced the national assimilation policy in the countries under their occupation.

But it was the heinous aggressor, Japanese imperialists alone that deprived the masters of other countries of their spoken and written languages and forced them to change their full names.

Language is the characteristics common to a nation.

Depriving a nation of its language and obliterating it tantamounts to cutting off the tongue of all its members and making them senseless.

The Japanese imperialists' act of obliterating national language was conducted even by the method of imposing the Japanese language upon the Koreans.

In 1911 they proclaimed Japanese the "national language." Since then the use of Korean was prohibited in all fields of society.

Since the 1930s they actually did away with the teaching of the Korean language in the educational sphere. Anyone who used Korean was fined and even expelled from school. All publications brought out in Korean went out of print.

Film production and the creation and publication of musical pieces, play-books and literary works were allowed only when the Japanese language was used. The Japanese imperialists went so far as to unhesitatingly arrest, imprison and murder researchers of the Korean language.

Their machinations for wiping out the Korean national language brought untold hardships to the Koreans and reduced many of them to illiterates.

The farce of "changing full names" they imposed upon the

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War and Children

War is leaving indelible psychological wounds on the minds of human beings.

One of them results from the fact that war has incurred a tremendous loss of lives of children so far.

At the time of aerial attacks on Yugoslavia by US-led Nato troops, more than 3,000 people died and one third of them were children.

In Iraq, the aerial attacks of the multinational force took a toll of 6,000 lives and half of them were reportedly the aged and the weak and children.

The Iraqi minister of public health says that since the US application of sanctions against Iraq more than 1.2 million children died, of whom 502,000 were under five.

In this country the death rate of children under five is now twice as high as that ten years ago.

Nearly 90 percent of the victims in the bloody dispute regions are civilians and most of them are children worldwide.

Tens of thousands of children have been entangled in the armed conflicts in more than 50 dispute regions or have become the main target in the disputes.

Over the last ten years more than two million children died from disputes. In the same period at least six million children were injured or crippled and one mil

lion were made orphans with no kins and 12 million became homeless.

Worse still, 300,000 minors (some are seven years old) are serving as soldiers or errand boys.

At this juncture, too, many children are being used as cannon fodder or as means of war in dispute regions the world over.

They are going to the front, carrying rifles in their hands or are being killed by the bullets and shells of the other side.

Lamenting over the poor conditions of the children who have been reduced to the target of misery and pain in dispute regions which have been on the increase in recent years, the UN Children's Fund and other international organizations, therefore, are calling for an early settlement of all 4isputes.

Choe Ryang Ii, a member of the DPRK UNICEF national coordinating committee, said:

"It is really heart-breaking to see many children die, victimized by disputes and aggressions, the children who can frolic about to their hearts' content under the warm care of their parents and society.

"June 4 is the day of innocent children who lost their lives owing to aggression.

"No longer there should be the children's suffering from war in the new century, I think."

May You Remain Powerful as Ever

Kye Sun Hui, a DPRK People's Athlete, came first in the women's 57 kg division at the all-star judo contest held in Munich, Germany, in February.

She had been widely introduced in publications under the captions, "16-Year-Old Nameless Girl Was Powerful", and "You Kye Sun Hui Are Admirable" for her good results at the world championships and several international games in the 90s of the previous century.

People are calling on her one after another to congratulate her upon her successful contest in the first year of the new century.

They are unanimous in asking her to remain powerful as ever.

Africa Hasten Socio-Economic Development

African countries are stepping up socio-economic development, full of conviction on future.

To bring about socio-economic prosperity by achieving continental peace and national unity and stability is the common task and primary concern of the African countries.

From the outset of this year the African countries set clear targets of economic growth and have taken positive measures for their realization.

This year Morocco plans to increase agricultural production and ensure an economic growth of 8.1 per cent.

Mauritius envisages a 6.5 per cent increase in the economy this year. It will be the highest record in the recent 10 years in this country. It has also set the goal of decreasing the rate of unemployment from 8 per cent last year to 6.5 per cent through the improvement of the conditions for employment.

The government of Nigeria decided to take a new tariff measure with the aim of accelerating economic development. It has also taken a step of ensuring more jobs and decreasing the rate of inflation. It is planning to push ahead with the construction of 250 objects for electrification in order to develop rural areas this year.

In Zimbabwe efforts are now made to solve the shortage of food and eliminate poverty. An instance can be cited—in Masbingo Province the "food-labour" programme which had been introduced in connection with the sharp decrease of agricultural production owing to flood last year, was set to be carried out again and the people are mobilized actively to its implementation.

In African countries positive measures are taken to develop social culture for national prosperity.

At the 10th Congress of the African University Federation held in Nairobi, President of Kenya called upon the African countries to put an early end to armed conflicts and create stable environments for the development of education, leading the continent to the road of prosperity.

Uganda plans to promote its socio-economic development by developing education and freeing society from ignorance.

The government and parliament of Tanzania are taking measures to develop education of mother tongue and elevate the intellectual potentialities of the people.

In Zimbabwe steps are taken to raise the social status of women and make them launch in various fields to unfold positive activities.

In Kenya energy is channelled into the development of public health so that all the people receive medical care and prevent all kinds of diseases.

Along with this, African countries are striving to oppose the imperialists' rule and subordination and safeguard national sovereignty.

In Morocco the dumping of goods of capitalist countries in the domestic market to stifle it is not tolerated.

A campaign to boycott US goods with brands of Coca-Cola, Macdonald, Ford, etc is now afoot in this country.

In Zambia privatization of enterprises of strategic importance doing much to the stability of the country has not been tolerated, thus clearly showing its stand of rejecting the suppression of the west and protecting and developing the national industry. Saying that investors of the west are seeking their own profits, regardless of the interests of Zambia, the President of this country emphasized that "everything can hardly be put at the disposal of foreign investors".

The enthusiasm of the African people has become ebullient, their zeal to build a new society and a new continent by their own efforts, in reliance on their strength and conforming with the requirements of the times of independence.

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Korean people was an unprecedented barbarous act which was aimed at legally putting all members of the Korean nation under the Japanese status system and turn them into colonial slaves forever, who were assimilated into Japanese.

Therefore, this farce was nothing but an attempt to actually legalize national discrimination and thus keep Koreans as their colonial slaves.

Owing to their moves for wiping out the national character of the Korean nation, the Koreans had to undergo innumerable mental sufferings.

However, the Koreans have defended their national character to the last.

The bruise on the minds of the Korean people caused by the Japanese imperialists' criminal acts has not been healed up yet.

Japan must apologize and compensate for its past crimes without fail.

Korean Painting

"A Couple of White Magpies"

The Korean painting "A Couple of White Magpies" was done by Merited Artist Ri Maek Rim in Juche 87 (1998).

An old saying goes that the appearance of a white magpie is an omen of a nation's prosperity.

By portraying a couple of rare white magpies perching on the pine tree that is regarded as the symbol of the Koreans' indomitable and pure-hearted characteristic, the painter tries to show the future of the country.

The branches and twigs coming down from the stem and the rich amount of needle leaves fixed to the twigs. Treated with the slender-brush technique of the Korean painting, the delicate work makes you fancy that the birds are really alive.

It is quite favourite with the public at home and abroad.

The size is 134 centimetres by 68 centimetres.